

2 John 1:9	A Christian can fail to abide in the doctrine of Christ
3 John 9-11	Diotrophes is no longer known by God
Jude 5	God destroyed those whom he saved when they did not believe
Revelation 22:19	A Christian can have their name removed from the Book of Life

In the book of Hebrews alone there are seven such admonitions:

Hebrews 2:1-2	We can drift away by neglecting our own salvation
Hebrews 3:12	An evil heart of disbelief can depart from God
Hebrews 3:18-19	A Christian can be denied access to heaven
Hebrews 4:1	A Christian can come short of salvation
Hebrews 6:4 -6	A Christian can fall away
Hebrews 10:26-29	A Christian can willfully sin and have no salvation
Hebrews 12:15	A Christian can fall short of Grace

The Hebrew writer pulls out Esau as an example for us today. As we recall, Esau as the heir to the blessing of God; however, he traded it away for something worldly (Genesis 25:25-34). When the time came to inherit the blessing, it was lost.

The Hebrew writer warns us not to become Esau, one who has possessed the promise of God, but loses their inheritance by sinful conduct.

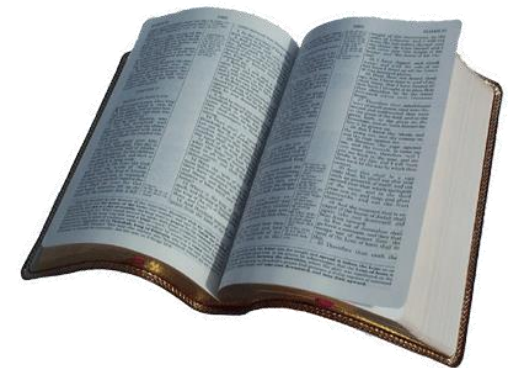
Hebrews 12:15-17 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; lest there be any

fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

We are warned constantly to be diligent to maintain our salvation. Jesus Himself told us to be faithful until death, and then He would give us the crown of life.

As we see, it is clear from Scripture that the doctrine of eternal security is contrary to the truth of God.

Once Saved, Always Saved?



Can a Christian lose their salvation because of sin?

During the middle ages, a theologian named John Calvin invented a theology based on the (false) idea that a man is saved by faith alone (see James 2:24). This theology is commonly referred to by its acronym: **T.U.L.I.P.**, which stands for:

- Total depravity
- Unconditional election
- Limited atonement
- Irresistible grace
- Perseverance of the saints

Each petal of this "tulip" is deadly; the purpose of this study is the last point, the perseverance of the saints, or more commonly called "*once saved, always saved*".

Is it true that once a person is saved, they are eternally saved? Many protestants accept this as faith. Their reasoning is that if there is nothing that one can do to be saved, there is nothing one can do to be lost once they are saved. There is little scriptural argument presented for this doctrine, since it is created by necessity from the doctrine of salvation by grace only. However, some of those who believe this point to a couple of statements made by Jesus:

John 6:39 "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.

John 10:28-29 "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand."

Is Jesus saying that no one can be lost after being saved, or is He saying that Satan has no authority over one who is in Christ? Jesus later said that one would be lost:

John 17:12 "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

Perhaps we are meant to see it in the light of this statement:

2 Timothy 2:12-13 If we endure, We shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us. If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

God will not deny us, but we can deny Him. He will not drop us from His hand, but we can jump.

Is it possible that once we are saved,

we are saved forever, no matter what we do? No doctrine can be more easily seen to be false. In EVERY BOOK OF THE NEW TESTAMENT (except Philemon) there is a warning given to the believer that they can fall from salvation. Consider only *some* of these admonitions (one from each New Testament book):

Matthew 5:13	Salt (saved) can lose its flavor and be thrown out
Mark 13:13	One must endure to the end to be saved
Luke 8:13	Saved can fall away
John 15:2	Those in Christ can be cast out
Acts 8:13	Simon believed and was baptized, then lost his portion
Romans 13:2	Saved can bring damnation on themselves
I Corinthians 10:12	Christians can fall
II Corinthians 13:5	Any Christian can become disqualified
Galatians 5:4	These Christians had already fallen from Grace
Ephesians 5:6-7	Christians can be deceived and become partakers of wrath
Philippians 2:12	Salvation requires constant work
Colossians 3:5	Christians can sin the same as those who receive wrath
1Thessalonians 3:5	By temptation the Thessalonians may be lost
2Thessalonians 2:3	The apostasy (falling away) is coming
1 Timothy 4:1	Some WILL depart from the faith
2 Timothy 2:17	Christians can stray concerning the truth
Titus 1:14	Christians can deny the faith
Hebrews 12:15	A Christian can fall short of Grace
James 5:19	A Christian who sins unto death can return from death
1 Peter 4:17	The house of God will also be judged
2 Peter 2:20-22	A Christian can turn from God and be condemned
1 John 5:16	A Christian can sin unto death