

Lesson 22a
The Question Of The Security Of The Believer
Continued

23 If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel KJV

3. What are **some** of the warnings and cautions relating to superficial belief?
 - a. Hebrews are warned that since their sacrifice has **ceased** they must turn to Christ or be lost. HE 10:26
 - b. A person may come **very near** true discipleship, tasting of the **heavenly gift** and yet may fall away. John 6:70
 - c. He may become **enlightened** as Baalim was. Num 24:3
 - d. He may partake of the gifts of the **Holy Spirit** and cast out demons or do many wonderful works without being a true believer. Matt 7:21-23
 - e. All who profess to be believers are warned to search their souls to confirm their adoption into the family of God because many are **self-deceived**. 2 Pe 1:10; Psalm 139:23; Rom 8:16; 11:21-22; 1 John 5:13
 - f. Warnings against superficial faith in Christ **are not** to be regarded as the same as warnings of the possibility of losing ones' salvation.
4. What is the significance of **losing one's reward**?
 - a. Some of the passages used to make the case for conditional security deal with the matter of **reward** rather than the question of salvation. 1 Cor 3:15;
 - b. Scripture teaches that one may be disapproved for **service** for Christ. 1 Cor 9:27
 - c. Loss of reward and disapproval of service **does not** equate to loss of ones' salvation.
 - d. Scripture teaches that assurance of one's salvation must always be **present tense**. And, while God's election is not vacillating, it can be affirmed only in terms of
 1. **profession**; Rom 10:9
 2. **conduct** 1 Cor 6:9-11, and
 3. the **witness** of the Spirit Rom 8:9-16.
5. What is the significance of losing one's **fellowship** with God?
 - a. Scripture teaches that sin **disrupts** the fellowship believers have with God. 1 John 1:5-6
 - b. This disruption may be rectified by **confession** and is not evidence of ones' loss of salvation. 1 John 1:7-10
6. What is the significance of the **chastening** of the Lord in the life of the believer?
 - a. A true believer may, because of his waywardness, be chastened or **disciplined** by the Lord. 1 Cor 11:29-32
 - b. This discipline is **not evidence** of lack of or loss of salvation but to the contrary, is a demonstration of God's fatherly intervention in the life of His child. He 12:9-11
7. What is the significance of one being "**fallen from grace**"? Gal 5:1-4
 - a. Properly interpreted this refers to a falling from a standard of grace in one's life and losing the **true liberty** which he has in Christ.
 - b. The Galatians were being warned about abandoning the grace we have in Christ and therefore, reverting to the bondage of works righteousness under **Judaism**.
 - c. The fall is from a standard of life not from a **work of salvation**.
8. What is the role of context and **dispensation** as it relates to this debate?

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- a. The OT does not give a clear picture of eternal security, but on the basis of NT teaching we can **assume** that OT saints enjoy the same security as those of the NT. Matt 17:2-3
- b. Israel's blessings and curses for their obedience or disobedience to the Law should not be lifted **out of context** and applied to Christians with respect to matter of salvation. Dt 28 Why? We are judicially and positionally in Christ and all our sin is dealt with by the blood.
- c. Dispensation and context **do matter** in the debate over the perseverance of the Saints.
- d. Proper understanding of doctrine must take into account the whole teaching of Scripture knowing that God does not **contradict** Himself and does not change.

Application

- a. One of the most sobering thoughts possible for the human mind to consider is whether one is truly **in Christ or not.**
- b. What danger is posed if we attempt **to convince** someone other than ourselves that they are truly saved?
- c. What courses of action **are open** to one who believes that s/he is not truly saved and yet, desires to be saved?

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 1. _____ Rom 10:9
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