

MAIN LESSON



J3-L12-Song



J3-L12-1

Worried Will, Joyful Jill

Today, we are going to meet two different people. They both believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for their sins, and that He now lives in Heaven at the right hand of the Father. However, they are very different in the attitudes they have about their salvation. One thinks that salvation can be lost, the other believes it cannot be lost. Today's lesson is about which person's view is correct according to the Bible.

To begin, we need to meet worried Will. Even though he truly is a believer, Will is worried. He is afraid that he might lose his salvation. He is always worried about things like: "What will happen to me if I commit a terrible sin, or if my faith gets weak, or if I just don't do enough for God?" There are times when Will just doesn't feel saved. He wonders, "Can I lose my salvation by not pleasing God or by doing something wrong?"

Next, we will meet Will's friend, joyful Jill. Jill has joy because she doesn't worry about losing her salvation at all. She believes that the Lord did everything needed to save her. Jill understands what the Bible teaches, and that since she did not do anything to be saved, she cannot do anything to keep herself saved.

The issue for today is: can a true believer in Jesus Christ ever lose their salvation? This issue makes some believers think like worried Will, and others to think like joyful Jill. Just how secure is the believer's salvation? The word secure means how safe, how sure, is our salvation. Today we are going to see what God's Word has to say about the security of our salvation. We will see our salvation is not only secure (a "a sure thing"), but that it is eternal (lasts forever); thus, it is called eternal security.

Much of the problem people have understanding this issue is the result of not understanding what God has told us is true for our age, the Age of Grace. In other ages, people did not have eternal security. Using the Bible verses for those ages is what confuses people (example, Matt 24:13). This lesson correctly (rightly) teaches God's Word for us today.

Saved From the Past

To truly understand this subject, we need to go back in time. You see, mankind has had a problem that has been passed down from generation to generation. It can be traced all the way back to Adam. It is the problem of sin.



J3-L12-2



Romans 3:10-12 – “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.”

God says, we can do nothing righteous on our own. All of our good works are like filthy rags in God’s sight (Isaiah 64:6).

Then we read that there is a punishment for being in our sinful condition.



Romans 6:23 – “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

The first part of this verse says that the punishment for sin is death. However, we can escape that punishment just by having faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. God, who is rich in mercy, will then give us a free gift, it is called “salvation.” Salvation means we have the forgiveness of all our sins and are assured of eternal life with Him. How long does “eternal life” last? Well, it starts the moment a person puts their faith in Christ, and it lasts forever and ever! Recall John 3:16, God gave His only begotten Son, so that we may have everlasting life. That’s right, it lasts forever. Once we have received the gift of salvation, it cannot be taken from us by anything or anyone. God gives His word that He will not take it back because of something we do, or don’t do.

The believer is accepted by God; no matter what they have done or will do. There is no sin so bad that God will not forgive it. In addition, when God saved us He knew every sin we would commit in the future. He already has forgiven all those future sins. Every sin in our past and every sin we will ever commit were forgiven, in a blink of an eye. That is what God says; so it is not a matter of how we feel. Even if we feel we have been forgotten by God; those feelings do not in any way affect God’s perfect salvation.

Saved in the Present

What about someone that commits a terrible sin? What if a person loses their faith? What if a person rarely does anything good for the Lord? Can such a person lose their salvation? We must make it clear some people claim to be Christians, but they are not really true believers; we are not talking about such people. We are talking about common people (Junior-aged students) who have faith in Christ (it only has to be a child-like faith, not some super-duper faith). If



J3-L12-3

such a true believer commits horrible sins or reaches a point in their life that they doubt their faith, then what?

God knew all our fears, doubts, failures, and sins right from the start; there is not a thing in our lives that is a surprise to God. None of these change His love for us, none of them will make us lose our salvation. Our “eternal life” (which started when we first believed) is not in the tiniest way changed as result of our actions. Remember, you get to Heaven by having faith in Christ and nothing else, nothing! It is faith in Christ alone; not faith plus things you must do, or faith plus giving and serving, or faith plus living a sinless life. Even our faith can weaken, but God is forever faithful to His Word, and our salvation is eternally secure in Christ. He never changes, and He remains strong when we are weak, when we fail, when we have doubts, and when our faith waivers.

We must always remember that Christ died to pay for all our sins; past, present, and future (Colossians 2:13). Since they all have been paid, they do not ever have to be judged again (Romans 6:10; Hebrews 9:28, 10:10). That means that even the bad things that we do in the future have been already paid in full by the death of the Lord Jesus (Hebrews 10:14).

Even though our salvation is eternally secure, there are consequences for leading a sinful life. God will allow our sins to take their natural course in our lives (1 Corinthians 3:17; Galatians 6:7). *[Note to teacher: “destroy” in the Corinthian reference refers to the fact God will allow the sins to take their natural course of destruction, it is not talking about salvation].* Many sins will result in dreadful diseases, broken relationships, bad problems, tears of regret, and loss of things important to us. In addition, and most importantly, a sinful life may result in the loss of rewards (but not our salvation) in Heaven. The sinful things that seem so fun now, end up being only temporary (Hebrews 11:25). In addition, those sins always bring regret and sorrow.

Sin always grieves the Holy Spirit and we should want to do only what is pleasing to Him (Ephesians 4:30). The Bible tells us that we are not to let sin have control of our lives (Romans 6:1-2,12). After all, our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19). The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to change us deep down inside and break the control of sin in our lives (Philippians 2:13; Romans 8:4).

Saved for the Future

The Bible also tells us that the Holy Spirit seals us for our protection.



Ephesians 1:13 – “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after ye believed, ye were sealed with the holy Spirit of promise.”



2 Corinthians 1:22 – “Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”

Have you ever had to pack your things and move to a new home? You were probably very careful to wrap your valuables, put them in boxes, and seal everything carefully with packing tape. Why did you go to so much trouble? You didn't want to lose anything, did you? You wanted all of your possessions to be protected during the journey and be in perfect shape when they were delivered to your new home.

This is what the Lord has done for us. We are very precious to Him. We are His possessions for which He paid a great price. Once we place our faith in Him, the Holy Spirit immediately seals us. We are securely placed into Christ and sealed there by the Holy Spirit (Colossians 3:3). We are kept in Christ until He calls us to our new home in Heaven. There is nothing more secure than being in Christ. Be assured, there is nothing or no one that is powerful enough to take us away from Him.

Romans 8:38-39 – “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.”



J3-L12-4

Object Lesson