



You Asked About...

*Personal Salvation and  
Eternal Security*

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Salvation comes from the Greek word which carries the idea of being rescued, saved, delivered, made whole, healed. It is the core message of the whole Bible – God’s search and rescue mission. It means being rescued (saved) from a predicament or condition from which a person could never save himself. This is why a person who has not accepted God’s offer of salvation is called “lost.” Lost means without options, at the end of our rope, without hope, nowhere to turn.

The Bible is clear...all humans suffer from a common predicament: we are all sinners.

Romans 3:23 - *All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.* (NIV)

Psalm 14:3 - *They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.* (NIV)

Isaiah 53:6, *We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way.* (NIV)

1 John 1:8, *If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.* (NIV)

The Bible is also clear that we cannot “self-rescue.” (Titus 3:3-8)

**THE UNFOLDING OF SALVATION**

Salvation **arranged**...

Rev. 13:8, *The Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.*

Salvation **announced**...

Genesis 3:15, *I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.*

Salvation **accomplished**...

Isaiah 53:4-6, *He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (NIV)*

Salvation **applied**...

Romans 10:9, 13, *If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved...Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (NIV)*

**BIG QUESTION...CAN YOU LOSE YOUR SALVATION?**

**Perseverance of Saints:** "That continuous operation of the Holy Spirit in the believer by which the work of God that is begun at conversion is continued and brought to completion." (John 10:28-29; Philippians 1:6)

**Apostasy**: Since humans are free to accept God's offer of grace (salvation), they are also free to walk away/fall away from it as well. A believer must persevere in faith and obedience in order to be assured of eternal salvation. (1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Peter 2:20-22)

Two *ifs* (Hebrews 3:6-19)

**OSAS**: Holding fast our confidence in the "hope of Christ" and "hold our initial assurance until the end" is not the prerequisite for our salvation. It is the evidence of our salvation. A person who does not do so indicates that he never experienced salvation and thus remains lost.

**POCA**: If a person does not "hold fast their confidence and assurance" they will no longer be partakers of Christ. They forfeit their place in Christ and are once again lost.

## THE REALLY IMPORTANT QUESTION

It's not this: "**Can I lose my salvation?**"

But this: "**Do I have a heart toward God?**"

Hebrews 3:12, *Be careful...Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God.* (NLT)