

MENS LIFE BLOOMINGTON

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

#36 Eternal Security | John 10:28

Overview: There are theologies/beliefs in the Bible that Christians can't come to agreement on. Obviously, that results in different denominations. I believe when we reach our eternal reward in heaven there will be a lot of things made clear to us regarding our "religion" on earth. There are some topics that are sometimes hotly debated among Christians that in the end, will it really matter? I believe the topic of eternal security could fall into the "does it really matter" category of beliefs.

Why I Picked This Verse: Although from the overview it might seem that I might have no real interest in the matter, that is not the case. I have been exposed to the topic as an attender of the Church of Christ, Christian Churches, and a Southern Baptist Church for 20 years while living in Florida.

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x09_QgF4a50

Segment Questions: (References are on back)

- What does eternal security have to do with the gospel message?
- Moore listed this as a principle in the lesson: Our perseverance in Jesus depends more on him than on us. What does he mean? Can you share a time you know something besides yourself kept you from losing your faith, or maybe kept you from at least heading that way?
- Do you know people who are overly secure in their salvation? Or what does that look like? Do you know people who are insecure in their salvation? Which way do you tend to lean?
- Do you know people who are overly secure in their salvation? Or what does that look like? Do you know people who are insecure in their salvation? Which way do you tend to lean?
- Discuss the difference between knowing you are going to heaven when you die vs eternal security.

Action Questions:

- How does this lesson effect the way you look at your salvation?
- How about those that have no security at all in Christ?
- How do you thank God for your salvation?

Closing Personal Prayer: Lord thank you for Christ. Thank you for the assurance of the resurrection and for your love for us. Thank you for the gift of eternal life through Christ.

Introduction

For most of my life I can remember my dad included in all his audible prayers: “Lord save us when we die” or “Lord take us to heaven”. So, when my family joined a Baptist church, he always liked to tell me “You know they believe in once saved always saved.” Over the years he mellowed on the eternal security debate. But he was right, the Baptist are pretty big on eternal security. They would always say if someone fell away from the faith, they were really not a believer when they accepted Christ. How can anyone judge that but Christ? Our Baptist pastor gave a different take I am going to share with you. I Corinthians 3 14-17.

Mark Moore’s teaching gave me a new understanding on eternal security. When we read the scriptures below, it seems both Christ and Paul are presenting conflicting statements on eternal security. Moore believes we can hold these seemingly contrary positions in harmony. Some believers take eternal security to mean they can do anything they please and be saved. Others seem to never be secure in their faith, always wondering if they are really saved. Moore says there are appropriate scriptures for both the overly secure and the insecure. He says paradox isn’t a bad thing theologically, if it can be justified biblically. He also says God keeps us eternally secure in Christ, offering us the dignity of choosing to be faithful to Jesus. He points out that the topic should be discussed without fighting and criticism, but in peace and respect for each opinion.

John 10: 28 | I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 15:6 | If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

Romans 8: 38-39 | I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 11:20-21 | (The Jewish Branches) But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but tremble. For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either.