

**“ONCE SAVED ALWAYS SAVED”**

(September 2000 – EKB)

**A.**

There is much teaching in the Scripture concerning **our position in Christ** when we become a Christian. For Example Ephesians chapter 1 has a strong emphasis along this line.

v1 To the saints.....in Christ Jesus.

v3 .....blessed us with every spiritual blessing .....in Christ.

v4 **He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before Him.....

v5 ....**predestined us to adoption as sons** by Jesus Christ to Himself according to the good pleasure of His will.

v6 He has made us **accepted in the Beloved**.

v7 **In Him we have redemption through His Blood.....**

(and many more).

“One or two” other references:

*Jn 15:16* You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever you should ask the Father in My Name, He may give it you.

*2Cor 5:17* If anyone is **in Christ he is a new creation.....**

*Rom 8:29* Whom He foreknew, **He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son.....**

*Jn 10:28* **I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish;** neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

*Gal 3:27* As many of you as **were baptised into Christ have put on Christ.**

If we place all our emphasis on this “positional” teaching, about the believer, then “once saved always saved” will probably be the conclusion.

**B.**

However the truth of nearly all Bible doctrines is to be found in **a balance between two apparently opposite points of view**, both of which are taught in the Scriptures. (Please refer to “Pastors’ Notes No 77.)

**C.**

As well as the “**positional**” teaching of Scripture about the believer, there is also much teaching that **the believer is responsible to maintain his relationship with God**, by His abundant grace, through diligent, personal, self discipline, *1Cor 9:25-27*. We could term this other aspect of truth as “**conditional.**”

The truth of Scripture is to be found **in a balance between the two Bible truths of the Believer’s “position” in Christ and the “condition” that he maintain a right heart attitude and obedience to God.**

**D.**

Some prominent Scriptures that speak about **the “condition” of man** maintaining a right relationship with God are:

- Col 1:23* ...if you indeed continue in the faith....  
*Mat 7:24* Whoever hears these sayings of Mine and does them.....  
*Mat 7:21* Not everyone who says unto Me, “Lord, Lord,” shall enter the Kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.  
*Heb 2:1* We must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away...  
*Heb 2:3* How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation.  
*Lk 13:24* Strive to enter through the narrow gate.....  
*Lk 9:23* If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily...

[There are numerous Scriptures along this line.]

**E.**

Finally there are some scriptural passages that specifically warn us to be **diligent not to fall away from following Christ.**

- Heb 6:4-6*  
*1Cor 15:2*  
*Heb 10:26,29*  
*1Tim 4:1*  
*Ezk 18:24*  
*2Pet 2:20,21*

**F.**

In conclusion then, **the believer is eternally secure in God as he diligently seeks to believe, serve and follow Christ.**