

“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.

v3blessed us with every spiritual blessingin 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.**