Saved to the Uttermost

7. Perseverance: Kept by God's Power

Selected Scriptures

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Introduction

- In each aspect of it, there is nothing that we can _____ about as though we have somehow saved ourselves. We can't rescue ourselves.

Romans 8:29-30

- This calling we see in verse 30 is not what we know as the "_____ call" to all to believe on Christ, such as we hear in preaching the Gospel, but the effectual calling of God by the Holy Spirit in the hearts of those who will believe.
- As we saw in the first element of our salvation in this series, God regenerated us by His Word and Spirit, causing us to be _____ _____. (1 Peter 1:3)
- And He has not reconciled us merely from the status of enemy to a neutral acquaintance, or even to friend, but God has made us His own children! We have been _____ by the God of heaven and earth.
- And last week, we looked at sanctification, which also flows from grace and faith. It is God who is at work in us both to will and to do of His good _____. (Phil. 2:13)

I. Continuance in Faith: Two Ditches

A. Ditch 1: Performance-Based Continuance

- <u>Proof Texting</u> – (verb) appealing to a verse or passage from the Bible without regard to its _____ to justify a theological position.

Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26-27; John 15:2, 6; 2 Peter 2:20-21; Matthew 24:13; Galatians 5:4

- Jesus spoke about those who trust in their _____ for their salvation. (Matthew 7:21-23)

Paul warned the Galatians about this very thing: (Galatians 3:1-3)

- **Gal 3:3** *Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the _____?*

Some problems caused by believing in a performance-based continuance:

1) People may wrongly believe they are saved because of their outward performance of _____-_____. They have a false sense of security because their faith is in themselves rather than in Christ.
2) People who are actually saved will live _____ lives as Christians because they know they still have remaining sin and do not know how to understand it. They can also feel that they cannot talk to a pastor or mentor about it because that person will think they aren't saved.
3) The devil, known as the accuser of the brethren, can have a heyday in the mind of those whose consciences are bound by constant _____ of their salvation.
4) They do not know the rest and _____ that Christ gives His people. (Mat. 11:28)

1 John 5:11-13

- **1 John 5:13** *I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may _____ that you have eternal life.*

B. Ditch 2: Dead-Faith Continuance

- Error: One need not expect any fruit of faith or _____ in one's life and heart.

James 2:17-18; 1 John 2:3-6

- One of the main dangers of believing the teachings in this ditch is a _____ sense of security for people who have not actually been born again, that they are going to heaven when they are not.

II. Saving Faith is Continuing Faith (Persevering)

1 Peter 1:3-5

- **1Pe 1:5** *who by _____ power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*
- Our salvation did not begin with us and is not _____ on us.
- Notice the means by which we are being guarded – through _____.

John 10:27-30

- **Joh 10:28** *I give them _____ life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.*

A. Christ Knows His Own (v. 27)

- Jesus speaks of an intimate, _____ relationship between Himself and His people.

B. Christ Gives Eternal Life (v. 28a)

- Salvation, once given by Christ, cannot be undone by _____, Satan, or circumstances.

Romans 8:38-39

- The perseverance of the saints rests on the promise of _____ — and His word cannot fail.

C. Christ Protects His People (vv. 28b–29)

The double assurance here is breathtaking:

- We are in _____ hand (v.28)
- We are in the _____ hand (v.29)

D. Christ Unites Us with the Father (v. 30)

- The _____ chose us (Eph. 1:4)
- The _____ redeemed us (Eph. 1:7)
- The _____ seals us (Eph. 1:13–14)

III. Saving Faith Is Living and Active Faith

- And that love of God that the Spirit has _____ into our hearts affects the rest of our lives. (Romans 5:5)

- And God doesn't fail to _____ His work in us in this life.

Matthew 24:13; Colossians 1:21-23

- As God's children, we are eternally preserved by God and will persevere in _____ to the end.

Conclusion: Safe in the Shepherd's Hands

- The perseverance of the saints is not a license to sin, but a reason to _____.

Jude 24-25

- Those whom God saves, God _____.

John 6:37-40

- **Joh 6:37** *All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never _____ out.*

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