


**Soteriology**  
Session 33



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church  
Professor of Bible & Theology – College of Biblical Studies

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**Soteriology Overview**

- I. Definition
- II. Election
- III. Atonement
- IV. Salvation words
- V. God's one condition of salvation
- VI. Results of salvation
- VII. Eternal security
- VIII. Faulty views of salvation

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**Soteriology Overview**

**This Session**

VII. Eternal Security




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### Definition of Eternal Security

“Eternal Security means that those who have been *genuinely saved by God’s grace through faith alone in Christ alone* shall never be in danger of God’s condemnation or loss of salvation but God’s grace and power keep them forever saved and secure.”

Dennis Rokser, *Shall Never Perish Forever*, p. 11

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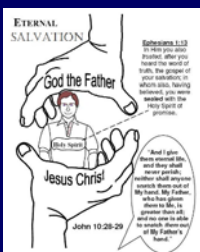
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### Eternal Security Outline



1. Eternal security arguments
2. Response to problem passages



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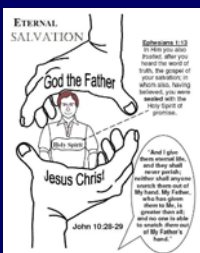
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### Eternal Security Outline



1. Eternal security arguments
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### Evidence for Eternal Security

1. Because self-righteousness did not save us it is not a basis upon which salvation can be lost
2. Salvation is not given or maintained by works
3. If a believer can lose eternal life, then how can this life be eternal (John 3:16)?
4. The Bible's promises guarantee security (John 10:28)
5. The assurance of salvation (1 John 5:14)
6. The believer is predestined for glory (Rom 8:29-30)
7. The Spirit's seal cannot be broken (Eph 4:30)

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### Evidence for Eternal Security

8. God keeps us from falling (1 Pet 1:4-5)
9. Christ's role as intercessor and advocate (John 17:11-12, 20)
10. Christ's death perfectly dealt with all sins (Titus 2:14)
11. A believer cannot be removed from Christ's body (1 Cor. 12:13)
12. The Bible does not specify which sins remove salvation
13. Believers with unfruitful lives still have salvation although lose rewards at the Bema Seat (1 Cor 3:15)

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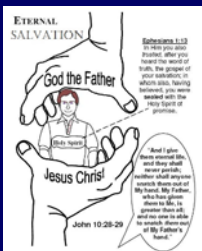
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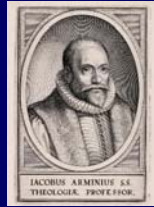
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### Introduction

- Rejoice?
- Jacob Arminius (1560–1609)
- Harmonization
- The Bible cannot contradict itself
- Biblical order




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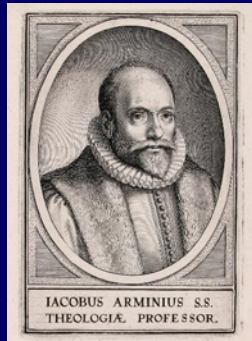
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### Response to Problem Passages

1. OT Passages
2. Passages from Matthew
3. Passages from John
4. Passages from Acts
5. Passages from Paul




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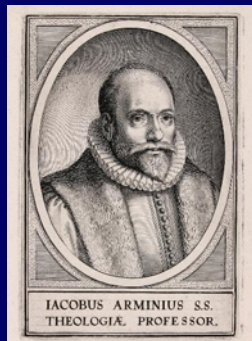
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### Response to Problem Passages

6. Passages from James
7. Passages from Hebrews
8. Passages from 2 Peter
9. Passages from 1 John
10. Passages from Revelation
11. Miscellaneous argument




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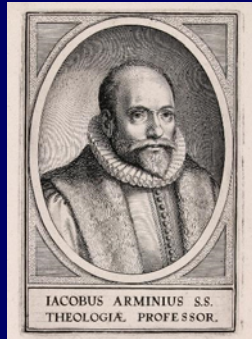
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Response to Problem Passages

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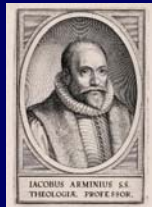
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1. OT Passages

- a. Adam & Eve (Gen. 1-3)
- b. Nadab & Abihu (Lev. 10:1-2)
- c. Korah's rebellion (Num. 16)
- d. Joshua 24:20
- e. Saul (1 Sam. 16:14; 28; 1 Chron. 10:13-14)
- f. Solomon (1 Kgs. 11)
- g. David (Ps. 51:11)
- h. Ezekiel 18:20




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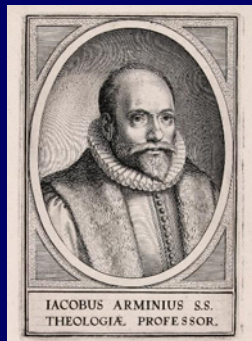
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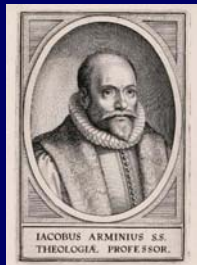
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### 2. Passages From Matthew

- a. Matt. 6:14-15
- b. Matt. 7:21-23
- c. Matt. 8:11-12; 25:30
- d. Matt. 10:32-33
- e. Matt. 12:31-32
- f. Matt. 24:13
- g. Matt. 25:41




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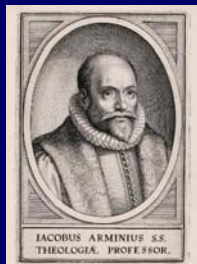
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- a. Matt. 6:14-15
- b. Matt. 7:21-23
- c. Matt. 8:11-12; 25:30
- d. Matt. 10:32-33
- e. **Matt. 12:31-32**
- f. Matt. 24:13
- g. Matt. 25:41




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### Matthew 12:31-32

- I. Context
- II. Five key questions
- III. Summary
- IV. Is suicide the unpardonable sin?

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Seven Suicides of the Bible

- 1. Abimelech (Judges 9:54)
- 2. Samson (Judges 16:26-31)
- 3. Saul's armor bearer (1 Sam. 31:5)
- 4. Saul (1 Sam. 31:3-6)
- 5. Ahithophel (2 Sam. 17)
- 6. Zimri (1 Kgs. 16:18)
- 7. Judas (Matt. 27:4-5)

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### Seven Suicides of the Bible

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2. **Samson (Judges 16:26-31) – Heb. 11:32**
3. Saul’s armor bearer (1 Sam. 31:5)
4. **Saul (1 Sam. 31:3-6) – 1 Sam. 28:19**
5. Ahithophel (2 Sam. 17)
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### Romans 8:38-39 (NASB)

“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”




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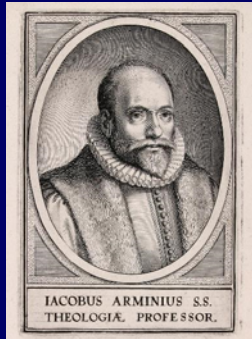
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Response to Problem Passages

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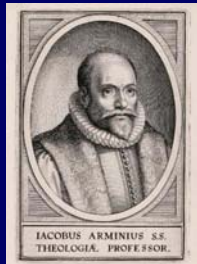
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3. Passages From John's Gospel

- a. John 6:66
- b. John 15:6
- c. John 20:30-31




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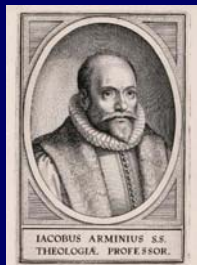
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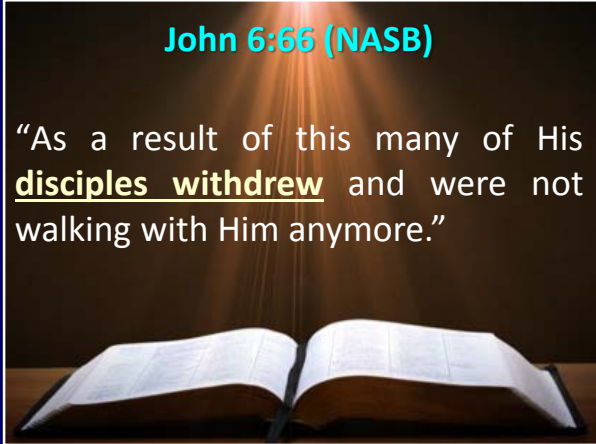
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**John 6:66 (NASB)**

“As a result of this many of His **disciples withdrew** and were not walking with Him anymore.”




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**a. John 6:66**

1. “Disciple” is not a technical term
2. “Disciple” can refer to both saved and unsaved students under Christ’s teaching
3. Examples
  - a. Matthew 7:21-23
  - b. Judas (Matt. 10:1-4; John 6:64, 71)
4. False converts or those who never believed
5. No mention of loss of salvation




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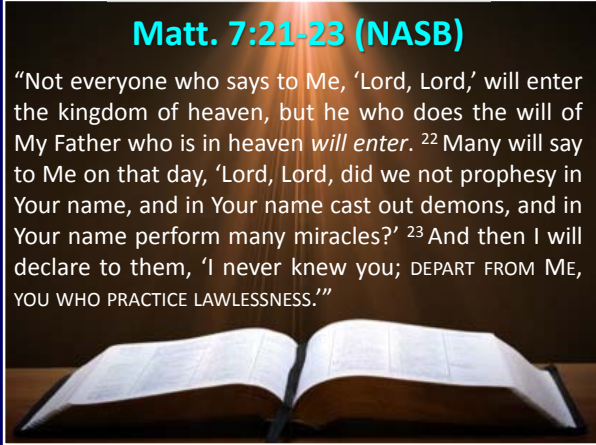
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**Matt. 7:21-23 (NASB)**

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.<sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’<sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”




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a. John 6:66

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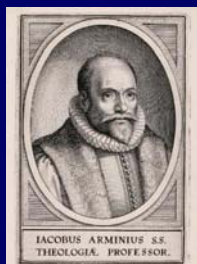
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3. Passages From John's Gospel

- a. John 6:66
- b. John 15:6**
- c. John 20:30-31




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John 15:6 (NASB)

"If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a **branch** and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the **fire** and they are **burned**."




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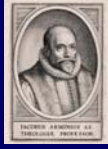
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**b. John 15:6**

1. Context-John 15:1-8
2. Saved audience
  - a. "In me" (John 15:2; 14:11)
  - b. "Clean" (John 15:3; 13:10-11)
  - c. Judas' departure (John 13:29-31)
3. Abiding (vss. 4, 5, 7) and fruit bearing (vss. 2, 4, 5, 8, 16)
4. Men (not God) cast the branches into the fire (vs. 6)
5. "Fire" not always hell (1 Cor. 3:15; Heb. 6:8; 1 Pet. 1:6-7)
6. Pruning to bear more fruit (John 15:2; Heb. 12:5-11)




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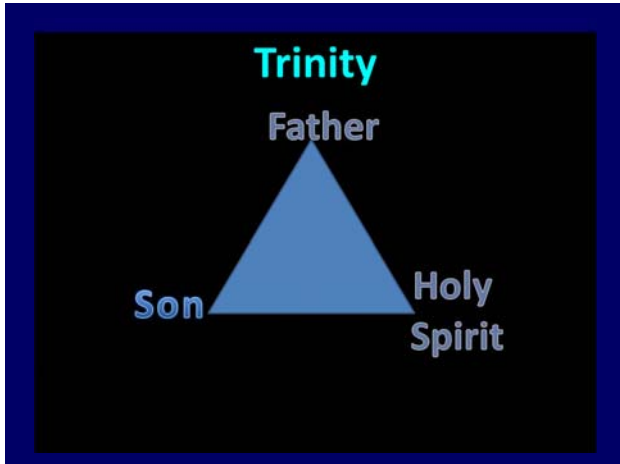
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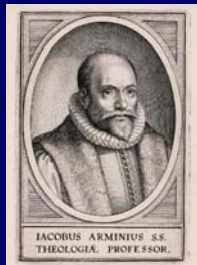
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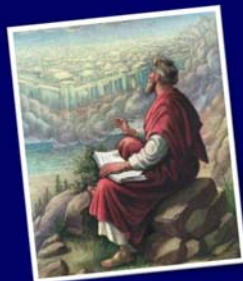
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### John 20:30-31



"Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that **believing** you may have life in His name."

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### Believing Forever?



"The aspectual force of the present *ho pisteuōn* seems to be in contrast with *ho pisteusas*...The present was the tense of choice most likely because the NT writers by and large saw **continual belief as a necessary condition of salvation**. Along these lines, it seems significant that the promise of salvation is almost always given to *ho pisteuōn*, almost never to *ho pisteusas*..."

Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics: An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament with Scripture, Subject, and Greek Word Indexes* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996), 621, n. 22.

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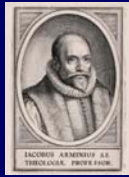
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c. John 20:30-31

- 1. Present tense participle "believing"-John 3:16, 18; 5:24
- 2. Abuse of the present tense
- 3. Present tense does not always require continual behavior
- 4. Mark 6:14
  - a. John the "baptizer"
  - b. John already dead!
  - c. Not describing continual baptizing
  - d. Just describing him
- 5. How many times doe you have to **MURDER** before you are a **MURDERER**? Once! Same with a FISHERMAN & BELIEVER




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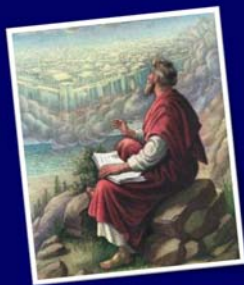
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Present Tense Participle Does Not Always Mean Forever

- John 4:13
- John 4:26
- John 4:36
- John 5:3
- John 5:24
- John 6:14
- John 11:26
- Mark 6:14



Bob Wilkin, "The One Who Believes: Is Continuous Faith Required to be Born Again?" online: <http://www.faithalone.org/magazine/y2006/06/f1.html>, accessed 06 May 2015.

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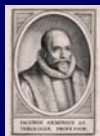
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c. John 20:30-31

- 1. Does not preclude ongoing faith but does not require it
- 2. Other verb forms also used to describe belief (John 8:30-31)
- 3. It is possible for a Christian to struggle with faith
  - a. a. 2 Tim. 2:13 – "faithless" = unbelieving
  - b. b. Jas. 1:5-8
  - c. c. Peter's sinking and three-fold denial




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**John 8:30-31 (NASB)**

“As He spoke these things, many came to **\*believe** in Him. So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had **+believed** Him, “If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine.”

\* aorist active indicative  
+ perfect active participle




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**c. John 20:30-31**

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**2 Timothy 2:13 (NASB)**

“If we are faithless [without faith], He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.”




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**James 1:5-8 (NASB)**

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. <sup>6</sup> But he must ask in faith without any **doubting**, for the one who **doubts** is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> For that man **ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord,** <sup>8</sup> *being a **double-minded** man, **unstable** in all his ways.*”




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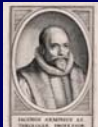
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**CONCLUSION**

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3. Passages From John's Gospel

- a. John 6:66
- b. John 15:6
- c. John 20:30-31




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