


**Soteriology**  
Session 32



Dr. Andy Woods

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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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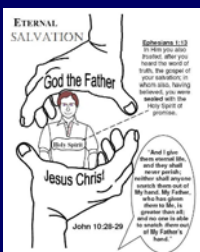
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### Eternal Security Outline



1. Eternal security arguments
2. Response to problem passages



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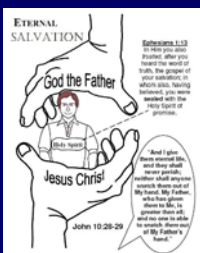
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### Evidence for Eternal Security

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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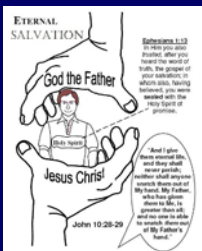
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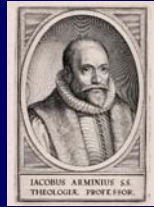
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### Introduction

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




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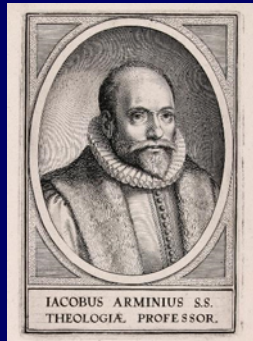
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### Response to Problem Passages

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




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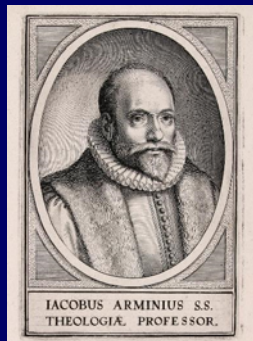
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### Response to Problem Passages

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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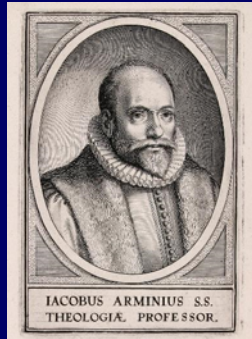
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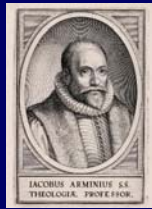
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1. OT Passages

- 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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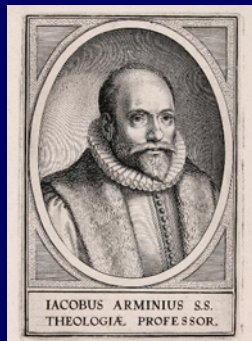
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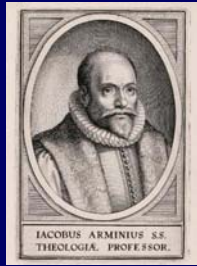
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- a. Matt. 6:14-15
- b. Matt. 7:21-23
- c. Matt. 8:11-12; 25:30
- d. Matt. 10:32-33
- e. Matt. 12:31-32
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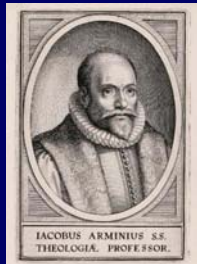
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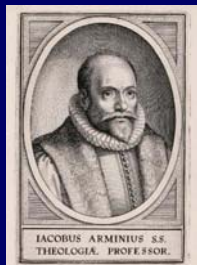
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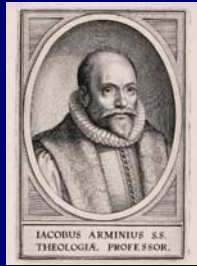
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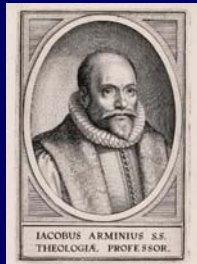
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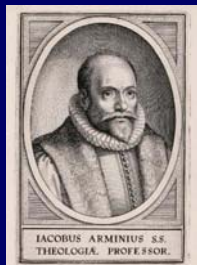
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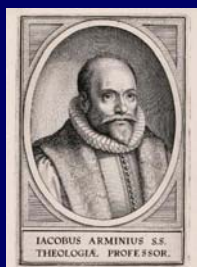
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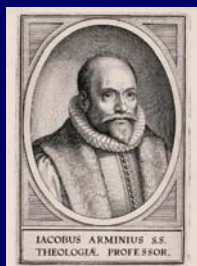
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### Matthew 12:31-32 (NASB)

“Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but **whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.**”




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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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II. Five Key Questions (Matt. 12:31-32)

- 1. What is the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?
- 2. Who committed the blasphemy of this sin?
- 3. What did this sin reveal?
- 4. Why can't this sin be forgiven?
- 5. Can this sin be committed today?

Dennis Rokser, *Shall Never Perish*, 227-236

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- 2. Who committed the blasphemy of this sin?
- 3. **What did this sin reveal?**
  - a. Their unbelief
  - b. Their self righteousness
  - c. Matt. 12:34-35
- 4. Why can't this sin be forgiven?
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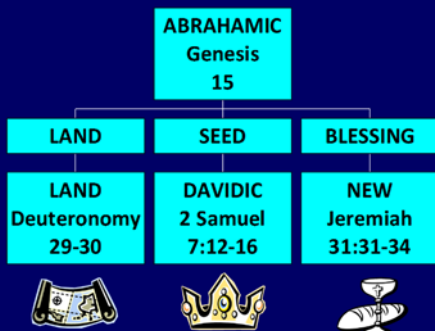
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## Abrahamic Covenant



*Unconditional* covenant with a conditional blessing (Deut. 28; Lev. 26)

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Exodus 19:5-6

“Now then, **if** you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, **then** you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”




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Six Parts of a Suzerain-Vassal Treaty\* in Deuteronomy

- Preamble (1:1-5)
- Prologue (1:6–4:40)
- Covenant obligations (5–26)
  - Deut 17:15
  - John 5:39, 46
- Storage and reading instructions (27:2-3; 31:9, 24, 26)
- Witnesses (32:1)
- Blessings and curses (28)



\*Suzerainty-Vassal treaty, which Ancient Near Eastern kings made, were only with redeemed or conquered nations and never with individuals. (2007). *Christian Apologetics Journal*, 6.

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### Matthew and the Kingdom



- Kingdom predicted (Isa 11:6-9)
- Kingdom offered (Matt. 3:2; 4:17; 10:5-7)
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- Judgment upon first – century national Israel (Deut. 28:49-50; Matt. 24:34-37; Luke 19:41-44; Acts 2:40-41)
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Toussaint, *Behold the King*, 18-20

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### OT PROPHETS DESCRIBE THE KINGDOM



- Kingdom Characteristics
- Is. 2:1-4; 11:6-9
  - Jerusalem = center of world spiritual and political authority
  - Perfect justice
  - World peace
  - Peace in the animal kingdom
  - Universal spiritual knowledge.

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Toussaint, Behold the King, 18-20

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### MESSENGERS OF THE KINGDOM



- John the Baptist – 3:2
- Jesus Christ – 4:17
- 12 Apostles – 10:5, 7

Toussaint, Behold the King, 18-20

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**Matthew 10:5-7 (NASB)**

“These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: “Do not go in *the way of the Gentiles*, and do not enter *any city of the Samaritans*; <sup>6</sup> but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”




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Toussaint, Behold the King, 18-20

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Toussaint, Behold the King, 18-20

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Toussaint, *Behold the King*, 18-20

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### Transition from Public to Private Ministry

	PUBLIC	PRIVATE
Scripture	1–12	13–28
Focus	Nation	Remnant
Miracles	Proof to nation	Training for remnant
Offer	Prominent	Disappears
Teaching	Discourse	Parabolic
Interim program	Not mentioned	Prominent

Toussaint, *Behold the King*, 18-20

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### Matthew Outline

Pedigree of the king (1–2)

- Preparation of the king (3–4)
  - Pedagogy of the king (5–7)
    - Power of the king (8–9)
      - » Program of the king (10)
        - Progressive rejection of the king (11–12)
    - » Preparation of the king’s disciples (13–20)
  - Presentation & rejection of the king (21–23)
    - Prophecies of the king (24–25)
  - Passion of the king (26–27)

Proof of the king (28)

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Toussaint, Behold the King, 18-20

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- 3. What did this sin reveal?
- 4. Why can't this sin be forgiven?
- 5. **Can this sin be committed today?**
  - a. Personally?
    - 1. No – loss of salvation
    - 2. Yes – dying in unbelief
  - b. Nationally? – No

Dennis Rokser, *Shall Never Perish*, 227-236

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### Committing Blasphemy Against the Holy Sprit Today?

- No commands in the epistles against blasphemy against the Holy Spirit
- Epistolary commands involving the Spirit
  - Do not lie to the Spirit (Acts 5:3)
  - Do not grieve the Spirit (Eph. 4:30)
  - Do not quench the Sprit (1 Thess. 5:19)
  - Walk according to the Spirit (Gal. 5:16)
  - Be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18)

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Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Israelology, pg. 617

"In verses 30-37, He pronounced a judgment on the Jewish generation of that day. That generation had committed the unpardonable sin: the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. **The unpardonable sin was not an individual sin but a national sin. It was committed by that generation of Israel in Jesus' day and cannot be applied to subsequent Jewish generations.** The content and definition of the unpardonable sin is the national rejection of the Messiahship of Jesus by Israel while He was physically present on the basis that He was demon possessed. This sin was unpardonable, and judgment was set."

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Arnold Fruchtenbaum, Israelology, pg. 617

"The judgment came in the year A.D. 70 with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple and the world-wide dispersion of the Jewish people. It was a national sin committed by the generation of Jesus' day, and for that generation the sin was unpardonable. From this point on a special emphasis is placed on *this generation* in the gospels, for it was guilty of a very unique sin. At this point, His offer of the Messianic Kingdom was rescinded. It will not now be established in their day because of the unpardonableness of that sin."

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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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### III. Summary

- A. Pharisees attributed Christ's miracles to Satan
- B. Pharisees did not believe in Christ as their Messiah
- C. A person must believe in Jesus to be saved
- D. The sin committed by the unbelieving Pharisees marks the nation's official rejection of the kingdom offer
- E. This sin is a one-time sin that cannot be replicated in subsequent generations or today
- F. The offer is then withdrawn as Christ announces His soon death and coming church (Matt. 16:18, 21)
- G. There is no loss of salvation because the Pharisees were never saved to begin with

Dennis Rokser, *Never Perish*, 234-35

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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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- 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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**CONCLUSION**

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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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