

Soteriology

Session 47



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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

Soteriology Overview

This Session

VII. Eternal Security



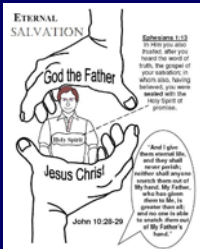


Definition of Eternal Security

“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

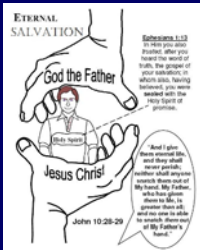
Eternal Security Outline



1. Eternal security arguments
2. Response to problem passages



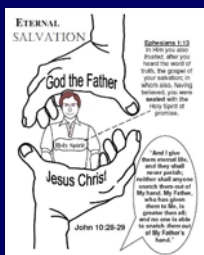
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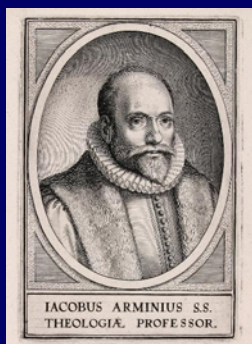


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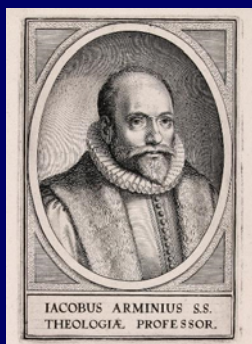
Response to Problem Passages

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



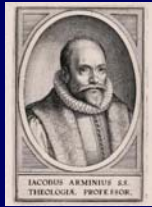
Response to Problem Passages

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



Passages from the General Letters & Revelation

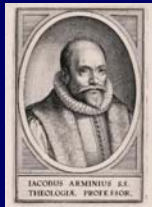
- a. Jas. 5:19-20
- b. Heb. 3:6, 14
- c. Heb. 5:9-10
- d. Heb. 6:4-6
- e. Heb. 10:26-30
- f. Heb. 12:14
- g. 2 Pet. 1:10-11, 20-22



- h. Jude 11
- i. 1 John 2:3
- j. 1 John 3:9
- k. 1 John 3:15
- l. 1 John 5:16
- m. Rev. 3:5
- n. Rev. 22:18-19

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- a. **Jude 11**
- b. 1 John 2:3
- c. 1 John 3:9
- d. 1 John 3:15
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Jude 11

“Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and **perished in the rebellion of Korah.**”
(NASB)



Jude 11



- Saved audience (Exod. 14:30-31; Heb. 11:29)
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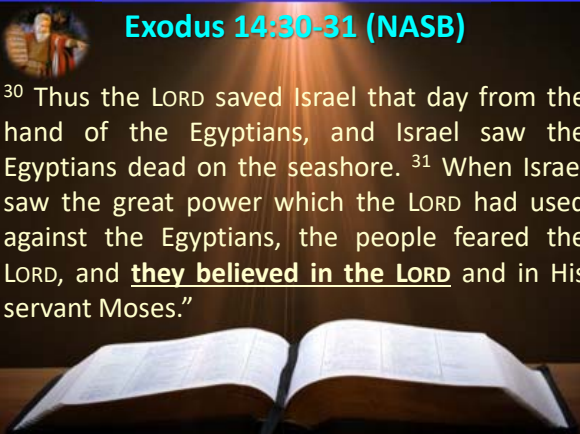


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Exodus 14:30-31 (NASB)

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ When Israel saw the great power which the LORD had used against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD, and **they believed in the LORD** and in His servant Moses."




Exodus 14:31



"When we read *so the people feared the Lord* and the words that follow, we are meant to understand that the community had come to saving faith and so were a reborn people. They *believed the Lord* (the same wording used of Abraham's saving faith in Gen. 15:6; read Paul's comments in Rom. 4)...The people were transformed spiritually even as they were delivered physically."

Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Commentary, 113.

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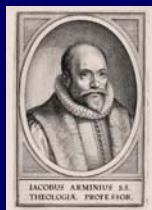
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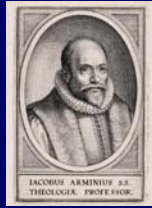
1. OT Passages



- Adam & Eve (Gen. 1-3)
- Nadab & Abihu (Lev. 10:1-2)
- Korah’s rebellion (Num. 16)
- Joshua 24:20
- Saul (1 Sam. 16:14; 28; 1 Chron. 10:13-14)
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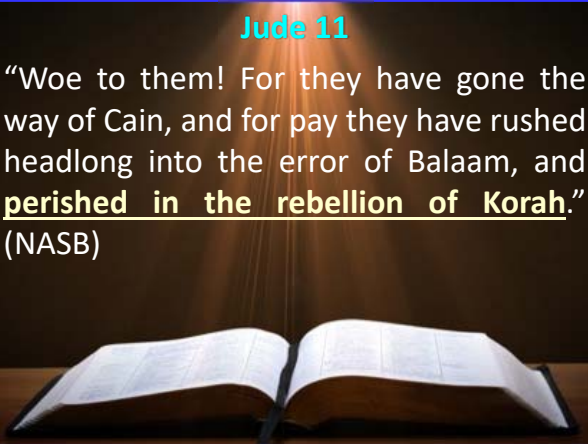
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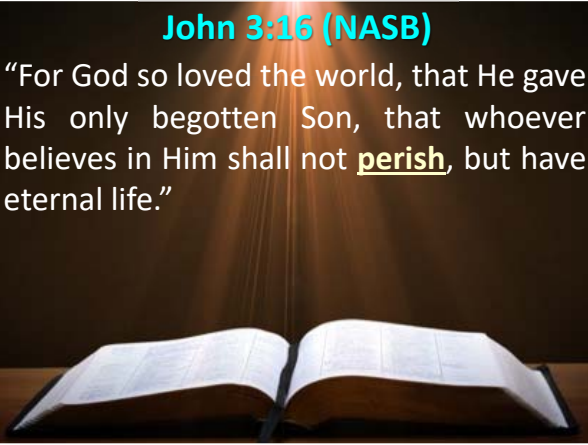
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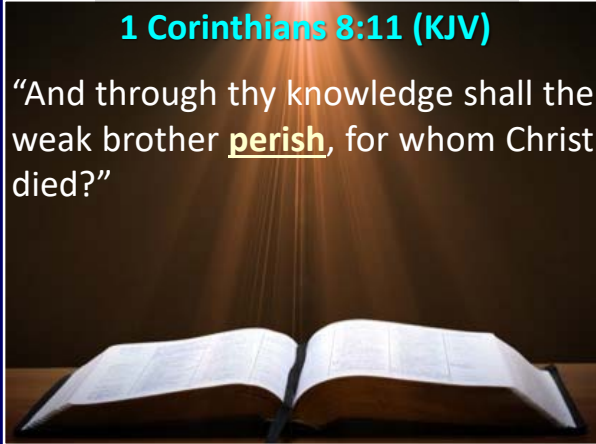
John 3:16 (NASB)

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”



1 Corinthians 8:11 (KJV)

“And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?”

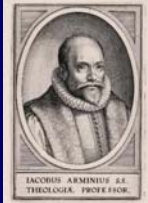


Definition of Perish?

“The weak Christian ‘perished’ in that he suffered spiritual loss, a sense of sin that affected his fellowship with God. This reckless use of liberty actually violates the purposes for which Christ died.”

Robert Gromacki, *Called to be Saints: an Exposition of 1 Corinthians*, p. 107

Passages from the General Letters & Revelation

a. Jas. 5:19-20		h. Jude 11
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Believing Audience

- 1 John 1:4; 2 John 12 – Loss of joy
- 1 John 1:8 – “We”
- 1 John 2:1, 18, 28; 3:2, 7, 18; 5:21 – Children of God
- 1 John 2:12-14 – Eight descriptions
- 1 John 2:20, 27 – Have the Spirit’s anointing
- 1 John 2:28; 2 John 8 – Loss of reward

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1 John 2:12-14

"I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name's sake. ¹³ I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. ¹⁴ I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one." (NASB)



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Believing Audience

- 1 John 3:1-2 – Those who will be like Him
- 1 John 3:2, 21; 4:1, 7, 11 – Beloved ones in the faith
- 1 John 3:13 – My brothers
- 1 John 4:4 – Born of God
- 1 John 4:13 – Possessing the Holy Spirit

7 Tests in 1 John

328 EXPLORE THE BOOK

i. 6: "If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie." False fellowship.

i. 8: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." False sanctity.

i. 10: "If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us." False righteousness.

ii. 4: "He that saith I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar." False allegiance.

ii. 6: "He that saith he abideth in Him ought to walk even as He walked." False behaviour.

ii. 9: "He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in the darkness." False spirituality.

iv. 20: If a man say I love God; and hateth his brother, he is a liar." False love to God.

What is Being Tested?


- Test of life – saved, union, justification
- Test of fellowship – fellowship with God, communion, sanctification

Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

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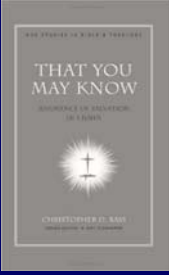
John F. MacArthur,

Saved Without a Doubt? How to be Sure of Your Salvation
(Wheaton, IL: Victor, 1988), 67-91.

"John MacArthur claims that John wrote this epistle to provide "eleven tests" of genuine saving faith. These include such subjective questions as:

- "Do you obey God's Word?"
- "Do you reject this evil world?"
- "Do you eagerly await Christ's return?" and
- "Do you see a decreasing pattern of sin in your life?."

Christopher D. Bass,
That You May Know: Assurance of Salvation in 1 John
 (Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman, 2008), 182-83.



“We must remember that the first letter of John is laden with various sets of criteria or ‘tests’ by which its readers are to evaluate their religious claims in light of the way they conduct their lives. The believers life style therefore serves as either a vital support to his or her assurance or is evidence that he has never really passed over from death to life.”

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2 VIEWS OF 1 JOHN

	TEST OF LIFE VIEW	TEST OF FELLOWSHIP VIEW
Summary	If you have righteous conduct, love, and truth then you know you were saved	If you have righteous conduct, love, in truth then you know you're in fellowship with God
Purpose Statement	1 Jn 5:13, "so that you may know that you have eternal life"	1 Jn 1:3, "so that you also may have fellowship with us (and) with the Father and with His Son"
Fellowship, Abiding	Being saved, being in union with God (in Christ)	Being in communion with God (walking in His Spirit)
Knowing God	Possessing eternal life	Enjoying fellowship with God
Eternal Life	Salvation (Jn 17:3)	Quality of life (Jn 10:10)
Light or Darkness	Being saved or being lost	Being in fellowship with God or being out of fellowship

Test of Life vs Fellowship		
	TEST OF LIFE	TEST OF FELLOWSHIP
Summary	saved	in fellowship
Purpose statement	5:13	1:3-4
Fellowship, abiding	union	Communion (John 15:5)
Knowing God	eternal life	fellowship with God
Eternal life	John 17:3	John 10:10; Gal. 6:8
Light/darkness	saved/unsaved	in/out of fellowship
Judgment/fear	Hell (John 5:24)	Discipline/Bema (2 Cor. 5:10)
Spirit	Possession (Rom 8:9)	Influence (Gal 5:16; 1 Thess. 5:19)
Satan	Unbeliever (John 8:44)	Influence upon believer (Matt 16:21-23; Acts 5:3; Eph 4:26-27)



1 John 2:3

- Other purpose statements in 1 John cover only what immediately follows (2:1 & 1:5-10; 2:26 & 2:18-25)
- 1 John 5:13 is **not** the book's purpose statement
- 1 John 1:3-4 is the book's purpose statement
- Heading in Scofield Reference Bible: "The Tests of Fellowship: Obedience and Love."
- "Knowing God" refers to intimacy or fellowship with God rather than being born again
- Out of fellowship believers do not know God (John 14:7-9; Gal. 4:9; 1 Cor. 15:34; 2 Pet. 3:18)
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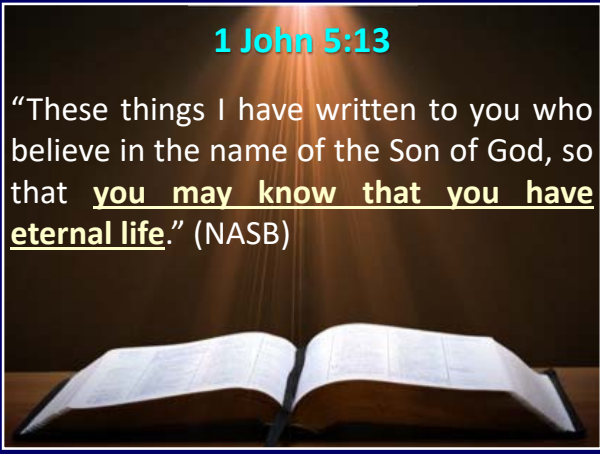
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1 John 5:13

"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life." (NASB)



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1 John 1:3-4

"what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have **fellowship** with us; and indeed our **fellowship** is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴These things we write, so that our **joy** may be made complete.." (NASB)



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1 John 2:3

“By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.” (NASB)



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2 Peter 3:17-18

“You therefore, **beloved**, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, but **grow** in the grace and **knowledge** of **our** Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.” (NASB)



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- **Keeping God’s commandments to know God (gain or keep salvation) contradicts Ephes. 2:8-9.**

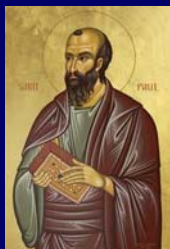


1 John 2:3

“By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.” (NASB)



Ephesians 2:8-9

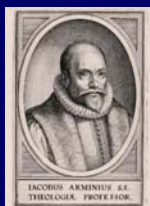


"For by grace you have been saved through **faith**; and that not of yourselves, *it is the gift* of God; not as a result of works, **so that no one may boast.**"

CONCLUSION

Passages from the General Letters & Revelation

- a. Jas. 5:19-20
- b. Heb. 3:6, 14
- c. Heb. 5:9-10
- d. Heb. 6:4-6
- e. Heb. 10:26-30
- f. Heb. 12:14
- g. 2 Pet. 1:10-11, 20-22



- h. Jude 11
- i. 1 John 2:3
- j. 1 John 3:9
- k. 1 John 3:15
- l. 1 John 5:16
- m. Rev. 3:5
- n. Rev. 22:18-19
