

The Assurance and Security of the Believer

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1A. Assurance of the Saint:

Assurance is the knowledge that one's sins are forgiven and that eternal life is a present possession.

1b. The problem of assurance:

1c. Christian doubts:

Every believer is saved and secure but not every believer is sure.

2c. Cultic denials:

"The believer's assurance of pardon for his sins is a vain and ungodly confidence"

Council of Trent, 1546—Roman Catholic response to the Reformation.

2b. The possibility of assurance:

Job 19:25 "I know that my redeemer liveth. . ."

Rom. 8:38-39 "For I am persuaded that [nothing] shall separate me from the love of God."

1 John 5:13 "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God that ye may know that ye have eternal life . . ."

Assurity is based on the word of God — some believers — what man knows

Security is based on the work of God — all believers — what God does

3b. The proof of assurance:

1c. The evidential reason from good works:

Js. 2:14-26 (v. 17 "Even so faith, if it has not works, is dead.")

1 John 3:7-14 (v. 14 "We know we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren")

2c. The internal witness of the Spirit:

Rom. 8:16 "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

Heb. 10:14-15 "For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified. Wherefore the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before."

3c. The explicit promise of the Son of God:

John 5:24 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation but is passed from death unto life."

Jn. 6:37-40 V. 40 "And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."

4c. The external testimony of the Word:

1 Jn. 5:11 "And this is the record that God hath given to us is eternal life, and this life is in his Son."

Acts 13:39; 1 Jn. 5:13; Heb. 10:22


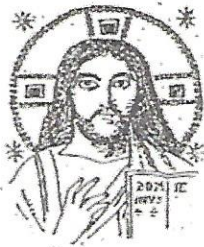
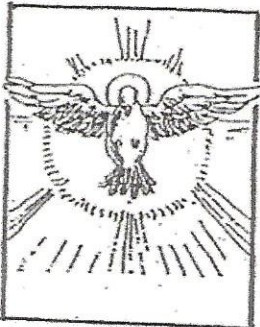
If the blood of Christ makes us **secure** in our salvation, the Word of God makes us **sure** of our salvation.

2A. The Perseverance of the Savior:

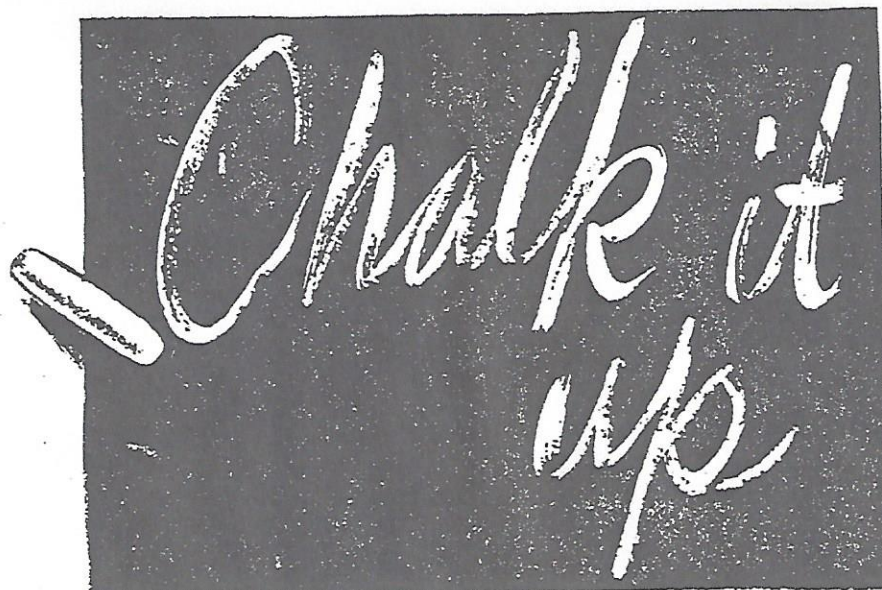
(See the diagram indicating the efforts of the blessed Trinity assuring the believer's eternal security.)

THE SOVEREIGN GOD AND ETERNAL SECURITY

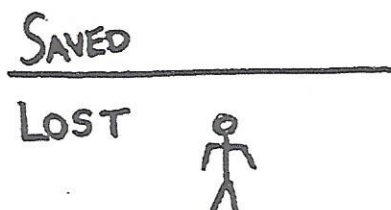
(SIX SUPPORTS FOR THE SINNER'S SECURE SALVATION)

MEMBERS OF THE TRINITY	THE WORK	SCRIPTURAL SUPPORT
THE FATHER 	THE FATHER'S PLAN THE FATHER'S POWER	<p>"... called according to his promise. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate... Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified. Romans 8:28b-30</p> <p>Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 1 Peter 1:5</p>
THE SON 	THE SON'S PRAYER THE SON'S PROMISE	<p>Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. John 17:24 (Rom. 8:34)</p> <p>And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My father, which gave them me is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. John 10:28-29</p>
THE HOLY SPIRIT 	THE EARNEST OF THE SPIRIT THE SEALING BY THE SPIRIT	<p>"...ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory. Eph. 1;13b-14</p> <p>And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Eph. 4:30</p> <p>Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts. 11 Cor. 1:22</p>

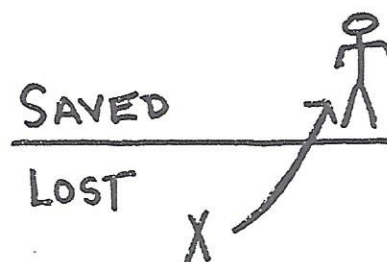




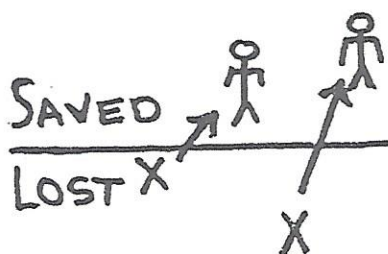
An Arminian illustration, teaching the possibility of losing one's salvation:



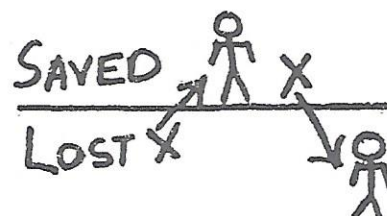
Idea 1: Each person in the world is lost apart from Christ.



Idea 2: The "new birth" experience is the crossing of the line from "lost" to "saved."



Idea 3: For some people the change is less conspicuous than for others.



Idea 4: A line that can be crossed can also be recrossed



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SALVATION FROM ETERNITY PAST TO ETERNITY FUTURE

Eph. 2:7

Glorification

Justification

Calling

Rom. 8:28-30

Predestination

Foreknowledge

Eph. 3:11

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.
²⁹ For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
³⁰ Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called; and whom he called, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified.