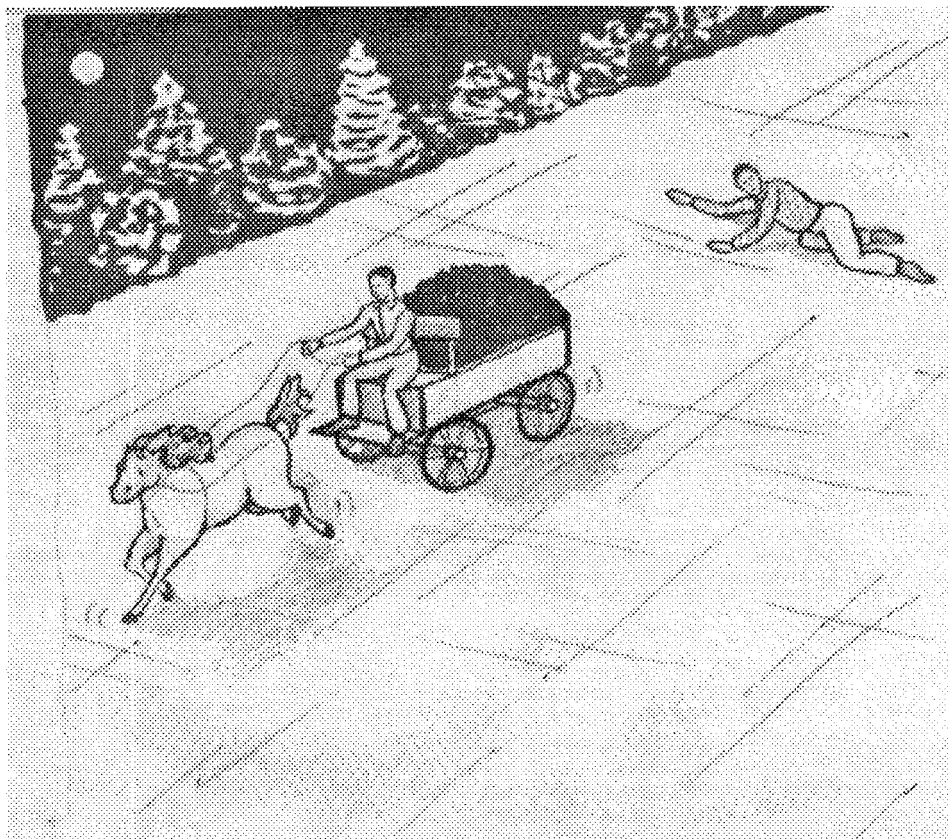


THE TRUE BELIEVER IS SAFE AND SECURE IN CHRIST FOREVER!



Personal assurance and the enjoyment of my so-great salvation depends on my knowledge of the absolute certainty of the promises of God.

The story is told of a western traveler in the pioneer days who came one winter night to the banks of a wide river. He had to get across but there was no bridge. The river was coated with a sheet of ice but he did not know how safe it was. After much hesitation he gingerly tested it with one foot and it held. Night was coming on and he must get across. With many fears and with anxious care he crept out on hands and knees, hoping to distribute his weight evenly on the uncertain ice. When he had gone some distance painfully and slowly he suddenly heard the sound of horse hoofs and joyful singing. There in the dusk was a man happily driving a wagon load of coal across the ice, being pulled by a muscular horse. The man was cheerfully singing as he went. He knew the ice was safe and he had no fears.

Both of these men were absolutely safe on that ice. The ice was thick and solid. It could have borne twice the weight of the wagon easily. One man was in fear and doubt because he did not know how safe he was and did not realize how solid and thick the ice was. The other man enjoyed his ride across the frozen river because he knew without any doubt that the ice would hold and that the foundation under him was solid and safe.

A true believer is safe and secure in Jesus Christ. No foundation could be any more safe or solid (1 Cor. 3:11). The problem is that some believers are not familiar with the statements and promises of God concerning their absolute security in Christ and therefore they are not in the place to fully enjoy their so-great salvation. It is to help such people that these pages are written. May our security in Christ cause our hearts to greatly rejoice:

♪ "Safe am I, Safe am I, in the hollow of His hand!" ♪

Every believer is safe and secure and protected in Christ, but not every believer realizes and understands his safety and security as well as he should. The more I realize how safe and secure I am in Christ, the more assurance I will have and the more I will be able to enjoy my relationship with Christ.

Sadly, there is another class of people who have a sense of false security. They think that they are safe when they are not safe at all. They think they are on solid ground when they are actually on sinking sand. Their situation would be like the person who thinks the ice is thick and walks out on it, only to have it give way under his feet, plunging him into the icy waters. Some have false security because they think that their good works will earn them entrance into heaven. Others have false security because they are trusting in some religious system for their salvation. Anyone who trusts in anything or anyone other than Jesus Christ and Him alone is not safe! Such a person is in great danger. Our refuge and safety must not be in SELF but in CHRIST ALONE.

In these pages we are going to see from the Bible that the true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever. The one who has come to Christ for salvation will never be cast out (John 6:37). No true believer will ever be lost. No true believer will ever lose his salvation (John 6:37-40). Will the true believer ever perish (John 10:28)? Never!

Before considering our eternal safety in Christ and God's amazing keeping ability, let us consider the important, soul-searching question: ***Am I a true believer?*** To help you answer this question, consider the following questions given on the next page. Think about each one in an honest, personal way. Take time to look up the Bible verses that are given along with each question. Ask yourself: ***Who am I really trusting for my eternal salvation?***

Am I A True Believer?

Do I see myself as a guilty, lost sinner who stands condemned before a holy and righteous God (Romans 3:10-19,23)? Do I recognize that my own heart is deceitful and wicked and incurably sick (Jeremiah 17:9; Mark 7:21-23)? Do I see myself as deserving of death and hell (Romans 6:23)? Do I realize that if God were to give me what I deserve and repay me for the way I have lived, then I would be totally destroyed (Psalm 130:3; compare Psalm 103:10)?

Do I recognize that there is absolutely nothing I can do to save myself (Titus 3:5)? Do I understand that trying my best to perform good works will never gain me or earn me an entrance into heaven (Ephesians 2:8-9)? Do I realize that my church or my religious system cannot save my soul (Jeremiah 17:5)? Am I convinced that my own righteousness and my own goodness falls far short of the righteousness that God requires and demands (Romans 3:10-12; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10)? Do I, in and of myself, have any personal credentials that are acceptable before God (Isaiah 64:6)?

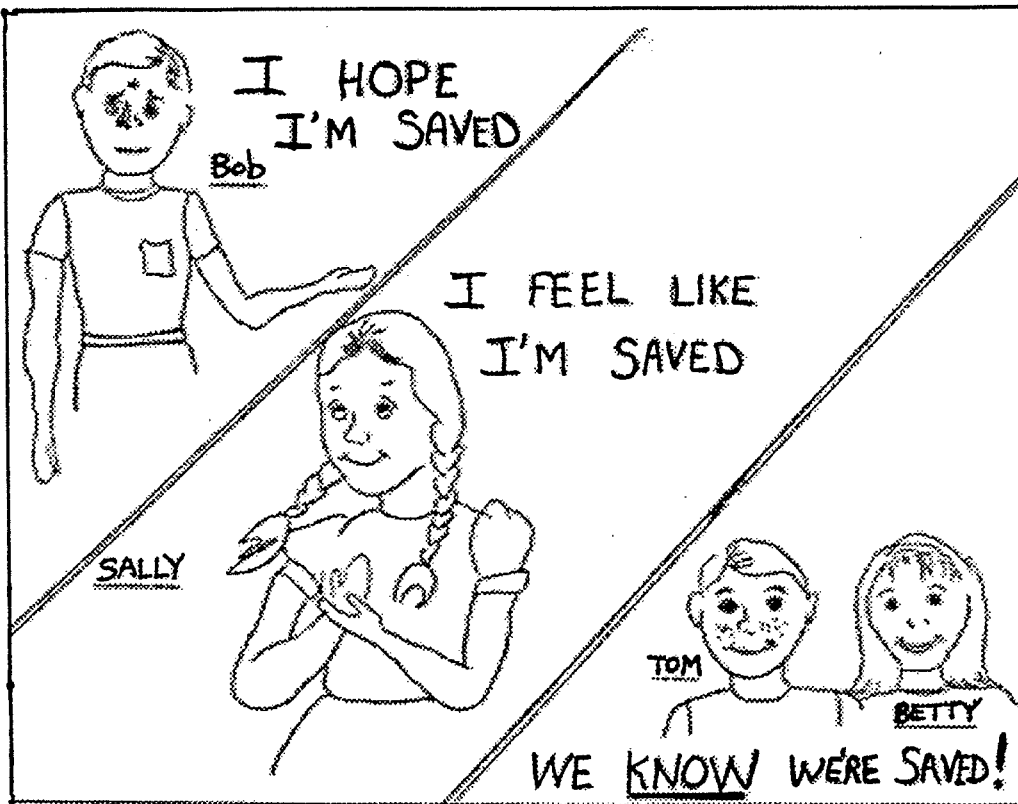
Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's only Solution to my sin problem (Acts 4:12)? Do I recognize Him as the only way to God (John 14:6), the only Door to salvation (John 10:9), the only Saviour for sinners (Matthew 1:21) and the only One who can give me eternal life (John 10:28; 17:3)? Do I understand that Jesus Christ is the eternal God (John 1:1-3) who came into this world and became a man to save me (John 1:14; 1 Timothy 1:15; John 3:17)? Am I convinced that He loved me even when I was a great sinner (Romans 5:8; John 3:16) and that He died and rose again to save my soul (Romans 4:25)? Am I persuaded that the Lord Jesus died on the cross for my sins and that He died in my place as my perfect Substitute, dying in my stead and paying completely the full penalty for my sins (Isaiah 53:6; 1 Peter 3:18; 2 Corinthians 5:21)?

Am I trusting in Him and in Him alone to save me (Acts 16:31)? Have I come to Him in simple, child-like faith (John 6:35,37; Matthew 11:28)? Have I, by faith, personally received the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour (John 1:12)? Am I resting my entire self on who He is (John 8:24), on what He has done (1 Cor. 15:3-4) and on what He has said (John 6:47)?

Do I believe that He is able to completely save all those who come unto God through Him, including me (Hebrews 7:25)? Do I believe the statement of Christ found in John 5:24? Is John 3:16 true of me? Have I ever shared with others that Jesus Christ is my Saviour (Romans 10:9-10; Matthew 10:32)? Am I able to say from my heart: *"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' Name. On Christ the solid Rock I stand—all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand!"* [Edward Mote]

Another helpful question that I can ask myself is this: If I were to die today and stand before God and He should ask me, **"Why should I allow you to enter My holy heaven?"** what would my answer be? If my answer in any way points to MYSELF (my own credentials, my own works, my own religious deeds, etc.) then I am not standing on solid ground. Here are some examples of people putting their trust in SELF: 1) "God should let me into His holy heaven because during my lifetime I have done more good than bad." 2)"God should let me into His holy heaven because I try to keep the ten commandments." 3) "God should let me into His holy heaven because I'm a member of a certain church" etc. All such answers point to ME, but salvation is not of ME; salvation is of the LORD!

There is only one reason why I can enter God's holy heaven. The appropriate response is this: "I will enter God's holy heaven for one reason and one reason only. It is only because of Jesus Christ my Saviour. Apart from His work on the cross I could never be saved. Apart from His life which He has given to me as a free gift, I could never enter His holy heaven. He is my only hope. He is the only righteousness I have and He is all the righteousness I need. Thank You Lord for saving my soul and making me whole." Notice how this answer points away from SELF and clearly points to the Saviour and to Him alone!



Let us assume that Bob, Sally, Tom and Betty are all saved!! They have each believed on the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31). Each one has eternal life and is a child of God. Each one will spend eternity in heaven with the Lord. Each one is safe and secure in Christ. All four of these young people are eternally safe and secure in the Lord Jesus!

The problem is that two of these young people have not been well taught in the Scriptures. They do not have assurance of their salvation that is based

on God's Word ("I know so because God said so!"). What are the names of the children who do not have assurance?

1. _____
2. _____

True or False:

- _____ Every believer is eternally secure in Christ.
- _____ Every believer has assurance of his salvation. Every believer is a "KNOW SO BELIEVER."
- _____ Every believer is safe and secure in the Lord Jesus.
- _____ Every believer knows that he is safe and secure in Christ.

In 1 John 5:13, John tells us why he wrote the book of 1 John. Did he write this book to believers or to unbelievers? _____ He wrote this book so that these people might

- a. Feel like they have eternal life.
- b. Think that they have eternal life.
- c. Hope that they have eternal life.
- d. Know that they have eternal life.

Reminder : Don't forget to pray before you study God's Word. See Psalm 119:18; 2 Tim. 2:7. The Lord must be our teacher!

Answer these TRUE-FALSE questions:

- _____ No one really can know for sure if he's truly saved (1 John 5:13).
 _____ It is possible for a person to KNOW that he is saved.
 _____ God wants every believer to KNOW that he has eternal life.
 _____ God wants every believer to have assurance of his salvation.
 _____ God wants us to wait until we die to find out if we are really saved.
 _____ The person who has assurance of his salvation is the person who thinks he is saved.
 _____ The Apostle Paul did not have assurance (see 2 Timothy 1:12).
 _____ The Apostle Paul knew that if he were to die, he would go to be with the Lord (Phil. 1:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:6-8).
 _____ The Apostle Peter did not believe that Christians could know for sure that they are on their way to heaven (1 Peter 1:3-4).
 _____ Jude was not sure that God could really keep the believer safe and secure (Jude 24).
 _____ The person who has assurance of his salvation is the person who hopes he is saved.

To make this last sentence (✍️) true, what one word would you need to remove? _____

What word would you put in its place? _____

Every believer is safe and secure and protected in Christ, but not every believer *realizes* and *understands* his safety and security as well as he should. **True or False:**

_____ The more I realize how safe and secure I am in Christ, the more assurance I will have.

As we study God's Word concerning this matter, we must answer two basic questions:
 1. Is the true believer eternally secure in Christ? 2. How can I know whether or not I am a true believer? And if I have truly believed, what should be true about my life? What are the marks of a true believer? We will now seek to answer this first question by showing that the Bible clearly teaches that the true believer is eternally secure in Christ.

Is The True Believer Safe and Secure in Christ Forever?

The answer to this question is an emphatic "YES" for the following reasons:

- 1. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because it is impossible for God to break His salvation promises.**

Is God a man that He should lie (see Numbers 23:19)? _____ Therefore, God **cannot** break His promises! We have already studied 15 salvation promises on pages 24-25. In John 3:16 God promises the true believer that he will never _____. In John 3:18 God promises that the true believer will never be _____.

(Continued on the next page)

According to John 5:24, what are 3 things that are true of every believer?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

In John 6:37 Christ promises to never _____ the person who comes to Him. In John 11:26 Christ promises that the true believer will never _____. [This "death" does not refer to physical death which both saved people and unsaved people experience, but it refers to "the second death" which is eternal separation from God (see Rev. 20:14-15; 21:8) which only the unsaved experience]. Answer **True or False:**

- _____ If a believer sins, then Christ will cast him out (John 6:37).
- _____ A person who truly is trusting in Christ as Saviour will never perish (John 3:16).
- _____ John 5:24 teaches the same truth as Romans 8:1. No condemnation!
- _____ It is possible for a true believer to lose his salvation and perish.
- _____ If a true believer in Christ could perish, then this would make God a liar (see John 3:16).
- _____ God is not a liar, and therefore John 3:16 is true. The believer in Christ will not perish. God has given us His Word! God said it and that settles it!

2. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because it is impossible for a true believer to become "UN-SEALED."

According to 1 Corinthians 6:11, when the Corinthian people became saved, three things happened to them:

- a. They were _____.
- b. They were _____.
- c. They were _____.

Do you think it is possible for a believer to become **unwashed**? _____ Can a person become **unsanctified**? _____ Do you think that a born-again person can become **unjustified** (condemned)? _____ Can a believer become **unredeemed**? _____ For a person to lose his salvation he would have to become UNWASHED, UNSANCTIFIED, UNJUSTIFIED and UNREDEEMED! Is this possible? _____ Does God "undo" the good work that He begins in a person or does He bring that good work to its ultimate completion (Phil. 1:6)? _____

3. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because no one can pluck him out of God's hand (John 10:28-30).

In John chapter 10 Christ describes Himself as the Good S_____ (verse 11) and He describes those who are true believers as His _____ (verse 27). What does Christ give to His sheep (verse 28)? _____ In verse 28 the Lord Jesus said that His sheep will never _____ (verse 28). **Note:** In the Greek this is a very strong statement. It could be translated, "they shall **never** perish, **no not ever!!!**" Or literally, "**Forever they will never perish!**" This is **eternal** security!

In John 10:28 we learn that the believer is safe and secure in whose hand? _____ Is anyone able to pluck the believer out of His hand? _____ In John 10:29 we learn that the believer is safe and secure in whose hand? _____ Is anyone able to pluck the believer out of His hand? _____ In verse 30 we learn that God the Son and God the Father are _____. In order for the believer to be lost, there would have to be a person stronger and more powerful than God the Son and God the Father who could pluck him out from the safety of God's hand! Is there such a person? _____ Is the God who lives in us (God the Holy Spirit) greater than Satan (see 1 John 4:4)? _____

4. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because it is God's will that the believer should not be lost but should have eternal life (John 6:37-40).

True or False: _____ According to John 6:35, the person who comes to the Lord Jesus is the person who believes in Him. What will Christ *never* do to the person who comes to Him and believes on Him (John 6:37)? _____

[Note: In the Greek, John 6:37 is also a very strong statement. It uses a double negative: "I will never ever throw him out."] Read John 6:38-39 and answer **True or False:**

_____ Christ came to this world to do His own will.

_____ Christ came to this world to do His Father's will.

_____ The Father's will was that Christ should lose only a few believers.

According to John 6:40 and 6:47, God's will is that everyone who believes on the Lord Jesus Christ should have _____. According to John 6:39,40,44,54, what future promise does the Lord give to those who are true believers? _____

_____ Thus, John 6 teaches us that the true believer has eternal life, he will never be cast out by Christ and he will be raised up at the last day!¹ Is the believer in Christ eternally secure? _____

5. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because Christ has promised never to leave him and never to forsake him (Hebrews 13:5).

We learn from Hebrews 13:5 that our conversation (manner of life, conduct, the way we live) is to be without _____. This means we are to be free from the love of money. We are not to love money or be possessed by our possessions (see 1 Timothy 6:9-11). There is a danger that we can get so wrapped up in materialistic things that we forget the Lord.

¹"I will raise him (the true believer) up at the last day" (see John 6:39,40,44,54). This is a reference to the first resurrection which is for believers only. It is a bodily resurrection that is unto LIFE (John 5:29). Only those who are "blessed and holy" can take part in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:6). The second resurrection is for the unsaved only. The unsaved dead will be raised up bodily to stand before Christ at the Great White Throne Judgment described in Revelation 20:11-15. Such persons will end up in the lake of fire which is the second death (Rev. 20:14-15; 21:8). Those who believe in Christ will never be a part of the second resurrection which is called the "resurrection of damnation" (John 5:28-29).

Instead of loving money, we are to be C_____ (Hebrews 13:5) with the things that we have. Therefore we are to be content and satisfied with what we have ("What I have is ENOUGH!"). As believers what do we have? What do we possess? We have the most precious possession that anyone could ever have because HE (Christ) has said (and He continues to say), I will never _____ thee, nor _____ thee (Hebrews 13:5). In the Greek this is a very strong statement. Five negatives are used and it could be translated in this way: "I will (1) **never** (2) **ever** leave thee, (3) **no**, I will (4) **never** (5) **ever** forsake thee." It is a negative way of saying, "I will positively be with you forever!" Christ will never abandon, desert, forsake or leave those that belong to Him!!² Christ was forsaken by God (Matthew 27:46) so that the believer will never be forsaken by God (Heb. 13:5). Because of this we may boldly say, "The _____ is my _____ and I will not F _____" (Hebrews 13:6). "The _____ is my _____ I shall not _____ (Psalm 23:1, "want" means to lack or be in need). We have Christ! Do we need anything or anyone else? _____ Will He always be with us (Matthew 28:20)? _____ Do we need to fear (Heb. 13:6)? _____ Was this same promise given to Old Testament believers (see Deuteronomy 31:6,8)? _____ If it were possible for a believer to be lost, then Christ would have to leave him and forsake him. Is this possible? _____ God will not abandon His own! No not ever!

6. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because he is a child of God forever.

John 1:12 declares that the moment you received the Lord Jesus Christ and believed on His Name you became a _____ of God (**Note:** the word "sons" in John 1:12 means "children"). "Behold, what manner of love the _____ hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the _____ (children) of _____" (see 1 John 3:1). "Beloved, _____ are we the _____ (children) of _____" (1 John 3:2). According to 1 John 3:10, what are the two groups of people in the world today? 1) _____ 2) _____ If a person is truly saved, then to what group does he belong? _____

Thus, in order for a saved person to become "UN-**SAVED**" God would have to say to him: "I now **DISOWN** you as My child. You are no longer My child and you are no longer a part of My family." Do you think that our Heavenly Father would ever say this to His child? _____

Let's think about an earthly, human father. Suppose Mr. Smith has a 9 year old son named Joey. One day Joey disobeys his father by messing around with his father's expensive computer and breaking it. He had been told to not even touch it without permission. How do you think Mr. Smith would respond to Joey's act of disobedience (circle the sentences on page 58 that best describe how you think this father might handle this situation)?

(Continued on the next page)

²The word "leave" in Hebrews 13:5 is the same word as the word "loosed" in Acts 16:26 (Paul's chains "left" him). The chain that binds the believer to Christ will never be loosed. We are chained to Him forever. He will never leave us! Nothing shall separate us (Rom. 8:38-39).

Let's assume that Mr. Smith is a loving father and really cares about his son. How would Mr. Smith respond to Joey's act of disobedience? (Circle the correct answers)

- a. He would be very displeased.
- b. He would stop loving his son.
- c. He would be grieved and saddened that his son would do such a thing (compare Ephesians 4:30).
- d. He would disown his son.
- e. He would tell Joey to go and find another father.
- f. He would expect Joey to come to him and admit that what he had done was wrong (compare 1 John 1:9).
- g. He would throw Joey out of the house, telling him to never come back (compare John 6:37).
- h. He would chasten, discipline, correct and/or spank his disobedient son (Proverbs 13:24; 22:15).

Read Matthew 7:9-11 carefully. Can we expect our Heavenly Father to be "much more" fair and loving towards His children than an "evil" earthly father? _____ Would an earthly father give his son a rattlesnake for lunch? _____ Would he feed his son rocks? _____ Would a human father normally disown his son? _____ Would God disown His child? _____

As God's children (sons) we are not to despise the _____ (discipline, training, correction, "spanking") of the Lord (Hebrews 12:5). Whom does the Lord chasten (Hebrews 12:6)? _____ **True or False:**

_____ Every son is chastened by his father and the person who is not chastened is not really his son (Heb. 12:7-8). Thus, the fact that Mr. Smith chastens Joey proves that Joey is his _____. Would Mr. Smith dare spank or discipline his neighbor's child? _____ The fact that he does not discipline his neighbor's child proves that his neighbor's child is not his _____. Is it enjoyable to be chastened by the Lord (Hebrews 12:11)? _____ And yet we can **endure** (Hebrews 12:7) the chastening of the Lord because it produces the peaceable _____ of _____ in our lives (Hebrews 12:11).

In 1 Corinthians 11:31-32 we find two important words (both beginning with the letter "**C**"): 1) **C**hastened 2) **C**ondemned. Which of these words describes God's way of dealing with His children? _____ Which of these words describes God's way of dealing with the world? _____ Answer the following **True**

or False:

- _____ God's children are chastened by the Lord.
- _____ God's children will be condemned by the Lord.
- _____ The unsaved world is chastened by the Lord.
- _____ The unsaved world shall be condemned by the Lord.
- _____ The believer is not under condemnation (Romans 8:1).
- _____ God is the Father of all men (John 8:44).

Please answer **True or False**:

- _____ God corrects and chastens His children but will never disown them.
- _____ I thank the Lord that I am a member of God’s family (John 1:12; Eph. 2:19) and I know that He will never cast me out (John 6:37).
- _____ Because God will never disown me, I can live as a disobedient child (1 Peter 1:14).
- _____ Because I am God’s child, I never want to displease or dishonor (Malachi 1:6) or grieve my Heavenly Father.
- _____ The parent who spansks and firmly disciplines his child is showing his hatred for that child (Proverbs 13:24).
- _____ God chastens those whom He hates (Revelation 3:19).

7. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because he is sealed with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30).

Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 and answer these questions: Paul describes the believer’s body as _____ Did Paul expect the Corinthian believers to know this truth? _____ **Where** is the Holy Spirit (verse 19)? _____ Now that we are saved, are we our own? _____ Who do we now belong to? _____ Are we free to live for ourselves (2 Cor. 5:15)? _____ Why are we not our own (1 Cor. 6:20)? _____ Who paid this awful price (1 Peter 1:18-19)? _____ *Salvation is **free**, but it is certainly not **cheap**!* Circle the one sentence that is **false**:

- a. God the Holy Spirit dwells and lives within every believer.
- b. Every believer has been bought with a price and belongs totally and completely to the Lord.
- c. Every person who has the Holy Spirit belongs totally and completely to the Lord.
- d. There are some believers who belong totally and completely to the Lord, but they have not yet received the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:9 teaches us that if any man does not have the _____ of Christ he is _____. This means that if a person does not have the Holy _____ then he does not belong to _____. Therefore, everyone who truly belongs to Christ has the _____ dwelling within.

True or False:

- _____ Every person who belongs to Christ has the Holy Spirit.
- _____ Every true believer has the Holy Spirit.
- _____ It is possible that a true Christian may not have the Holy Spirit dwelling within.
- _____ If a person does not have the Holy Spirit, then He is not a true Christian.

In Ephesians 1:13 we learn three things that have happened to every person who is truly saved: "In whom ye also trusted, **(1)** after ye heard the _____ of _____, the _____ of your salvation; in whom also **(2)** after ye _____, **(3)** ye were _____ with that _____ of promise." We shall now study these three ingredients of salvation:


(1) In order for a person to be saved, he must first hear the W_____ of T_____ which is the G_____ (Good News) of his S_____ (Ephesians 1:13). Without faith, can a person be saved (Ephesians 2:8)? _____ Faith is properly and correctly **responding** to the Word of God. Is it possible to respond properly to God's Word if you have never heard it? _____ Can a person believe on the Lord Jesus Christ if he has never heard of Him (Romans 10:14)? _____ "Faith comes by _____ and _____ by the _____" (Romans 10:17). Therefore, for a person to be saved, he must first H_____ God's W_____.

(2) Many people hear God's Word, but, sadly, they are never saved. Not only must a person H_____ God's Word, but he must respond properly to God's Word by B_____ on the Lord Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:13; Acts 16:31). Men and women, boys and girls are saved in only one way—they are saved through F_____ (Ephesians 2:8) and not by _____ (Ephesians 2:9).

(3) When a person hears the gospel and responds by trusting Christ and Him alone as his personal Saviour, then God does something very wonderful to him! He is S_____ with the _____ of promise (Ephesians 1:13). According to 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, who is the One who has sealed us? _____ According to Ephesians 1:13 what (or WHO) are we sealed with? _____ Therefore God the Father is the Sealer (the One who seals) and God the Holy Spirit is the Seal! Where is the seal (2 Cor. 1:22)? _____ God has sealed us with His Holy Spirit and this seal is a **mark of ownership!**



Suppose Cowboy Sam were to brand his cattle with this mark: 

Suppose Cowboy Hank were to brand his cattle with this mark: 

If you were riding on your horse and you came across a stray steer with 

branded on its hide, then you would know that the steer belongs to whom?

A little further down the trail you come across another steer and as you examine this animal you discover that it is branded with _____, and therefore it must belong to Cowboy Hank.

Every steer that is branded with  must belong to _____. If you were a steer with  branded on your hide, then you could proudly say, "I know that I belong to Cowboy Hank. He has branded me with his own personal mark of ownership!"

The believer in Christ has been "branded" or sealed with what (or WHO)–(Ephesians 1:13)? _____ Who has sealed the believer (2 Corinthians 1:21-22)? _____ Therefore the believer can say, "I know that I belong to _____ because He has S_____ me with His Holy _____." In 2 Timothy 2:19 we read: "Nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure (solid), having this _____, the _____ knows them that are _____." He knows those who truly belong to Him! Does the Lord know who His true believers are? _____ Does the Lord know which people He has sealed with the Holy Spirit and which people He has not sealed? _____ As you watch and observe other people, is it possible for you to **actually see** the Holy Spirit in them? _____ Is the Holy Spirit visible or invisible? _____ Therefore, is God's seal visible or invisible? _____ The first time you looked in the mirror after you were saved, did you see any great difference in your appearance? _____ Did you see the Holy Spirit living in you? _____ Did you find God's name written on your forehead as the people described in Revelation 14:1? _____

Answer TRUE or FALSE:

- _____ The believer is sealed with the Holy Spirit, but no one can see this seal except the Lord.
- _____ When a sinner is saved his physical appearance changes drastically.
- _____ The Lord knows which people have the Holy Spirit in their hearts (compare 1 Samuel 16:7 with 2 Corinthians 1:22).

Certainly God knows that we belong to Him, but how can other people know that we belong to the Lord? The answer to this question is found in the last part of 2 Timothy 2:19: "Let every one who names the name of Christ depart from _____ (unrighteousness)." According to this verse, explain how other people can know that we are truly Christians: _____

Although people **cannot** see the Holy Spirit dwelling within us, are they able to see the **fruit of the Spirit** (Gal. 5:22-23; Eph. 5:9)? _____ How can the world know that we belong to Christ (John 13:35)? _____

Answer TRUE or FALSE:

- _____ The world can actually see the Holy Spirit in the believer.
- _____ The world can see the way we live and conduct ourselves and they can see the evidence of the Spirit at work in our lives.

TRUE or FALSE (continued):

- _____ The person who truly has the Holy Spirit will want to depart from iniquity and unrighteousness. His desire is to please and obey the Lord.
- _____ If a person is consistently living in sin and unrighteousness then he is giving evidence that he does not belong to the Lord (compare 1 John 2:29; 3:10).
- _____ If a person **claims** to be a Christian then he must be a true believer. If you say you are saved then this means that you really are saved.

Ephesians 1:14 teaches us that the Holy Spirit is the "_____ (down payment, pledge) of our inheritance until the _____ of the purchased possession." This verse is talking about the believer's **final** redemption (see pages 38-39) when the believer will be with the Lord forever and will never again sin. Christ has promised us that someday He will return for His believers (see John 14:2-3; Romans 8:23). As a guarantee that Christ's promise is true, God the Father has given us His Holy Spirit as an earnest or pledge that someday our salvation will be completed (compare Phil. 1:6). "God has also _____ us, and given the _____ (pledge) of the _____ in our hearts" (2 Cor. 1:22). "God also has _____ unto us the _____ (pledge) of the _____" (2 Cor. 5:5). To understand the word "earnest" just think of an engagement ring. When a young man gives his sweetheart an engagement ring, the ring serves as a pledge or a guarantee that someday he will come to marry the girl who has the ring. He will receive his bride and enter into a wonderful relationship with her. Therefore, the fact that we have the H_____ S_____ is a guarantee that someday Christ will come to receive His bride (John 14:1-3) and we will be with Him face to face (1 Thess. 4:16-18) in a far greater and closer relationship than we enjoy even now (Phil. 1:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:8; 1 John 3:1-3).

Please answer **TRUE or FALSE**:

- _____ The fact that we have the Holy Spirit **now** proves that someday our salvation will be complete and we will be with the Lord. All who are sealed will be saved forever!
- _____ We are sealed with the Holy Spirit until we sin (Eph. 4:30).
- _____ It is possible for the believer to grieve and sadden the **Holy** Spirit because of sin in his life (Eph. 4:30).
- _____ When the believer sins, it is then that the Holy Spirit leaves him and abandons him (Eph. 4:30; John 14:16-17).
- _____ God the Father has given us the Holy Spirit so that He might abide and live with us forever (John 14:16).
- _____ A saved person can lose the Holy Spirit and become UN-SEALED.
- _____ The Holy Spirit sometimes leaves a believer (John 14:16; Hebrews 13:5).
- _____ It is possible for a true believer to become un-sealed.
- _____ If a person claims to be a Christian, then he should show that he is really saved and really sealed by the way he lives (2 Timothy 2:19).

8. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because he is a member of the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13).

In Ephesians 1:22-23 the true church is said to be His (Christ's) B_____. Paul said to the Corinthian believers: "Now ye are the _____" (1 Corinthians 12:27). Those of us who are truly born-again (John 3:3-7, 14-16) can say, "We are _____ of His (Christ's) _____, of His _____, and of His _____" (Ephesians 5:30).

Who is the Head of this body (see Colossians 1:18 and compare Col. 1:13-14; see also Ephesians 1:22-23)? _____ Think of your own body. Does your head tell your hands what to do or do your hands tell your head what to do? _____ Who then should be the One that gives orders to the church? _____ Where do we find these orders (2 Timothy 3:16-17)? _____ Who should have the pre-eminence (first place) in all things in the church (Colossians 1:18)? _____

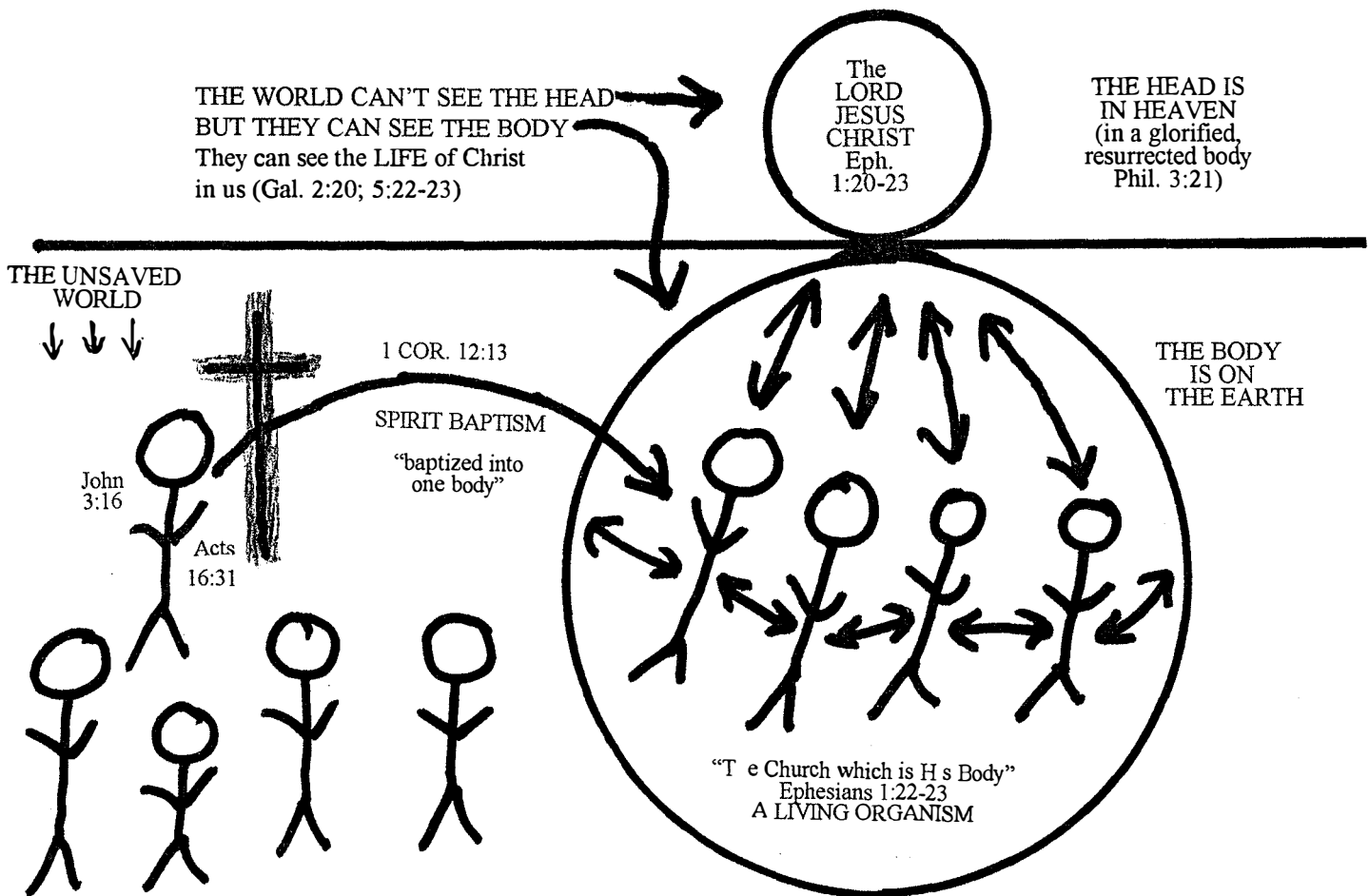
How many bodies does Christ have (Ephesians 4:4)? _____ [Note: We know that Christ is in heaven today in a literal, physical, resurrection body—Philippians 3:21; compare John 20:26-27; Acts 1:9-11; Revelation 1:7. And yet, it is also true that Christ has a body of believers on the earth whose purpose is to manifest the resurrected life of the Lord Jesus who is now in heaven—Romans 6:4-10; Galatians 2:20. This is the "one body" spoken of in Ephesians 4:4]. How many LORDS do we have over the church (Eph. 4:5)? _____ What is His Name (Eph. 3:11)? _____ Therefore, the church has how many Heads? _____ In Matthew 16:18 Christ said, "I will build _____ church." In Ephesians 1:23 we learn that the church is _____ body. Is the Pastor speaking the truth if he says: "This is my church!" ? _____ Should the elders or deacons say this? _____ Those who really understand God's Word will say, "This is _____ church!"

How does a person become a part of the true church? How does a person become a member of the body of Christ? The answer to these questions is found in the two words "one baptism" in Ephesians 4:5. This is **not** talking about water baptism. Ephesians 4:3-6 is speaking about things that are true of all believers. Thus the "one baptism" must be a baptism that is common to all believers. Have **all** believers been baptized **in water**? _____ Was there a time in your life when you were a believer in Christ but you were not yet baptized in water? _____ Were you baptized in water the moment you were saved or some time later? _____ Suppose that you received Christ as your personal Saviour and then before you had a chance to be baptized (immersed) in water, you had a heart attack and died. Would you still go to heaven (see 1 John 5:11-12; John 3:16; Acts 16:31)? _____ Does water baptism save a person or does Christ save a person (Acts 4:12; John 14:6; and see also page 21)? _____ Therefore, the baptism spoken of in Ephesians 4:5 cannot be water baptism, but it must be a baptism that has happened to **every** believer.

As we study the Scriptures we discover that the "one baptism" of Ephesians 4:5 must refer to "Spirit baptism." Spirit baptism is most clearly described and defined in 1 Corinthians 12:13—"For by one _____ were we all _____ into one _____." According to this verse, how many believers have been baptized into the body of Christ? _____ Therefore, this baptism must have taken place when (circle the correct answer)?

- a. When I joined my local church.
- b. When I was baptized (immersed) in water in obedience to Christ's command.
- c. When I trusted Christ and Christ alone as my personal Saviour and Lord.

The following diagram might be of help in understanding the truth of 1 Corinthians 12:13:



Please answer these **TRUE-FALSE** questions, looking up the verses that are given:

- 1)_____ The church is the body of Christ (Eph. 1:22-23).
- 2)_____ Every believer is a member of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:27).
- 3)_____ Every believer is a member of Christ's Church.
- 4)_____ Water baptism is the same as Spirit baptism (see the previous two pages).
- 5)_____ 1 Corinthians 12:13 describes water baptism.
- 6)_____ Acts 8:38 describes Spirit Baptism.
- 7)_____ Ephesians 4:5 is talking about Spirit Baptism.
- 8)_____ Every believer has been baptized in water.
- 9)_____ Every believer should be baptized in water (Acts 10:48; Matthew 28:19-20).
- 10)_____ All believers have been Spirit-baptized (1 Cor. 12:13).
- 11)_____ Spirit baptism is that experience that results in a person speaking in tongues.
- 12)_____ Spirit baptism is that work of God whereby a person is immersed and placed into the body of Christ the moment he believes on the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 12:13).
- 13)_____ Water baptism saves us from our sins (Matthew 1:21).
- 14)_____ When a saved person becomes a member of Christ's church, his membership is permanent. He can never stop being a member of the body of Christ.
- 15)_____ If a believer were to lose his salvation (which is impossible), God would have to cast him out of the body of Christ (which is impossible).
- 16)_____ We know that God has placed the true believer into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13) and we can be sure that Christ will never remove him from this body (compare John 6:37).
- 17)_____ Sometimes Christ must say to His disobedient believers, "You are no longer members of My body! I hereby excommunicate you from My church!"
- 18)_____ It is impossible for a person who has been baptized **into** the body of Christ to be baptized **out of** that body!!
- 19)_____ The true believer is eternally safe in Christ because he is a member of the body of Christ!

9. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because nothing can separate him from God's everlasting love (Romans 8:35-39).

What shall separate us from the love of Christ (Romans 8:35)? _____

Shall tribulation? _____ Shall distress? _____ Shall persecution? _____ Shall famine? _____

Shall nakedness? _____ Shall peril? _____ Shall sword? _____

According to Romans 8:36, does God tell us that we would expect an easy life? _____

Read 2 Corinthians 11:23-28. Did Paul experience the very things mentioned in Romans 8:35? _____

Can a believer live a victorious life even in the midst of trouble and trial and suffering (Romans 8:37)? _____ Did Paul have ASSURANCE that nothing could separate him from the love of God (Romans 8:38-39)? _____ What one word in verse 38 is a word of ASSURANCE? _____ Can an unbeliever claim the wonderful promise of Romans 8:38-39 (compare 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9)? _____ For a saved person to be lost he would have to be separated from the love of God. Is this possible? _____

10. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because God is for him, not against him (Romans 8:31-34).

What is the answer to this Biblical question: "If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31)? _____ Verses 32-34 of Romans 8 prove that God is for us and not against us. Match the following statements with the correct verse in which they are found:

- | | | |
|---------|---|----------------|
| 1 _____ | Christ died for us. | |
| 2 _____ | God the Father delivered up
His own Son for all of us. | A. Romans 8:32 |
| 3 _____ | Christ makes intercession for us. | B. Romans 8:33 |
| 4 _____ | God declares us to be righteous. | |
| 5 _____ | Christ rose again for us. | C. Romans 8:34 |

If the LORD is our light and our salvation, do we need to fear (Psalm 27:1)? _____
 If the LORD is the strength of our life then we do not need to be _____
 (Psalm 27:1). The Lord is our refuge and strength and a very present help in trouble and
 therefore we will not _____ (Psalm 46:1-2). Because the Lord is on our _____,
 we will not _____ (Psalm 118:6). Who is our HELPER (Isaiah 50:7-9)?
 _____ If God is our Helper, do we need to fear men
 (Hebrews 13:6)? _____ If the Lord is IN US, do we need to fear Satan (1 John 4:4)?

For a believer to lose his salvation, it would be necessary for God to be against him.
 Is this possible? _____

Don't forget that a healthy believer is one who obeys Christ, reads the Bible daily, prays often, faithfully attends a good Bible believing and Bible teaching church and desires to please Christ every hour of every day. How is your spiritual health? See 3 John 2-4 and Psalm 1:1-3.

11. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because he is kept by the power of God (1 Peter 1:5).

In 1 Peter 1:5 we are told that believers are _____ by the _____ of God through _____ unto S_____. The word "kept" comes from a verb which means "to keep, to guard, to protect" and it is in the present tense which means that we are *constantly* and *continually* being K_____ by the P_____ of God. The verb is also in the passive voice which means that we are not the ones doing the keeping, but it is _____ who does the keeping! Does 1 Peter 1:5 say that we are kept by our own faithful living and good works? _____ We are constantly being _____ in God's power. How powerful is God (compare Genesis 17:1 and Revelation 19:6)? _____

_____ Is God **able** to save sinful men (read Matthew 19:23-26)? _____ If God is able to save us, is He also able to keep us saved (1 Peter 1:5)? _____ Whose responsibility is it to keep and guard and protect believers (1 Peter 1:5)? _____ Is the Shepherd supposed to guard and keep the sheep or are the sheep supposed to guard and keep themselves? _____ Is the Lord Jesus able to keep and protect His sheep (John 10:27-28)? _____ Now that we are saved, the Lord Jesus is the _____ and _____ of our _____ (1 Peter 2:25). The word "Bishop" means "overseer," one who watches over us and protects us and keeps us from eternal harm. Christ is the Guardian of our souls!

According to Hebrews 7:25, the Lord Jesus is _____ to _____ them to the _____ that come unto _____ through _____. He is able to keep on saving them to the uttermost. The word "uttermost" means "completely, perfectly, fully, wholly." Therefore, because of the work of Christ on our behalf, we have a perfect, complete and full salvation! And this complete salvation is forever because "He _____ to make intercession for us (Hebrews 7:25)."

Jude tells us (in Jude 24) that God is _____ to _____ us from _____, and to present us _____ before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy! Who was another great man of God who had assurance of God's keeping power (read 2 Timothy 1:12)? _____ As Paul wrote the book of 2 Timothy, did he believe that his death was close at hand (2 Timothy 4:6-8)? _____ In light of this fact, it is amazing to read 2 Timothy 4:18 and to discover that Paul had full ASSURANCE of the keeping power of God: "And the _____ shall deliver me from _____ evil work, and He will _____ me unto His _____." The verb "preserve" means "to save" and thus Paul knew that the Lord would save him unto His heavenly kingdom! Because of God's keeping ability, our full and complete salvation is guaranteed!

Answer **True or False**:

- _____ It is the responsibility of sheep to keep themselves safe.
- _____ We are the Guardians of our own souls.
- _____ God is able to keep and protect His saved ones to the very end. This is why His believers do not need to worry about losing their salvation.
- _____ The Almighty God is fully able to keep His own and to preserve them unto His heavenly kingdom.
- _____ God must save us, but it is our responsibility to keep ourselves saved by living a faithful life and by doing good works that please the Lord.
- _____ I know that I am constantly being kept in and by God's power and therefore I am thankful to the Lord and I desire to live a faithful life and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. I thank God for my full and complete salvation.
- _____ God has saved me by His grace and He is now keeping me by His grace and someday I'll be in heaven by the grace of God!
- _____ God has saved me by His grace but I'm keeping myself saved by my good works and by my righteous deeds.
- _____ Because God has saved me and is keeping me, I can live anyway I want and I can do whatever I please. Since I'm **SAFE**, it no longer matters if I **SIN**.
- _____ God's sheep are safe in the hand of God forever (John 10:28-29).
- _____ God's sheep follow the Shepherd (John 10:27).

12. The true believer is safe and secure in Christ forever because of the work Christ is doing for him right now in heaven.

Christ as our Intercessor (Hebrews 7:25)

Where is the Lord Jesus Christ today (Rom. 8:34)? _____

What is He doing there (Romans 8:34)? _____ Who is He doing this for? _____ Read Hebrews 7:25. Not only does Christ save completely all those who come to God through Him, but He also is always living in order to make _____ for them! In both Romans 8:34 and Hebrews 7:25 the verb "intercede" is in the present tense, indicating that Christ **keeps on** making _____ for us. "To intercede" means "to pray for someone, to plead on someone's behalf." Did Christ intercede on behalf of Simon Peter (Luke 22:31-32)? _____ Peter certainly had a lapse of faith when he denied his Lord, but Jesus prayed that his F_____ would not F_____. Do you think this prayer was answered? _____

"Sin will keep you from this Book (the Bible) or this Book will keep you from sin!"

-D.L.Moody

In John 17:1-26 we find a wonderful example of an intercessory prayer. Who prayed this prayer (John 17:1)? _____ Therefore, who is our Intercessor? _____ To Whom did Christ pray (John 17:1,5,11,21,24,25)? _____ In this prayer, did Christ intercede for believers or for unbelievers (John 17:9)? _____ In what verse does Christ ask the Father to **keep** (guard, protect) those believers that belong to Him? _____ In what verse does Christ ask the Father to **keep** them from the evil? _____ [Literally, "...keep them from the evil one (Satan)"] In what verse does Christ pray for His believers that they might be with Him and that they might be where He is? _____ Will this prayer be answered (John 14:3)? _____

If we could lose our salvation, then Christ would have to stop interceding for us! But the Bible tells us that He keeps on making _____ for _____ (Romans 8:34). Therefore, is it possible for the believer to lose His salvation? _____

Christ as our Advocate (1 John 1:8-2:2)

What can you say about the believer who says, "I have no sin" (1 John 1:8)? _____ What can you say about the believer who says, "I have not sinned" (1 John 1:10)? _____ Is it true, according to 1 John 1:9, that when we sin we need to ask Christ to save us all over again? _____ When the child of God sins, what must he do (1 John 1:9)? _____ The word "confess" means "to say the same thing, to agree, to acknowledge." Therefore we must say the same thing about sin that God says. We must see our sin as God sees it. We must agree with God and with God's Word that what we have done is sinful: "Yes Lord, I have sinned and done this wickedness in Your sight" (compare David's prayer of confession in Psalm 51:3-4). When we confess our sins, what two things does God promise to do (1 John 1:9)? 1) _____ 2) _____

Did John write these things to us so that we would sin and live a defeated life (1 John 2:1)? _____ **True or False:** _____ "If any man sin, then he has lost his salvation" (1 John 2:1). But if we do sin, then we know that we have an _____ (1 John 2:1). The verb "we have" is in the present tense and means, "We keep on having an Advocate." That is, He never stops being our Advocate. The word "advocate" means "one who is called to our side to help us, a helper in court, a defense attorney." Who is our Advocate and Helper and Defense Attorney (1 John 2:1)? _____

When we sin, who is it that accuses us before the Father (Revelation 12:9-10)?
 _____ Satan comes before God and says, "
 _____ (write your own name) has sinned and done this evil deed, and because You are a holy God
 You ought to punish this believer and send him/her into the lake of fire to be under Your
 wrath forever." But we have an A _____ (Helper) with the Father, Jesus
 Christ the Righteous One (1 John 2:1) and He pleads with the Father on our behalf: "O
 righteous Father, I know that _____ (your own name) has sinned and
 disobeyed the Word of God, but I died for that sin and Your wrath has already been poured
 out upon Me when I died on Calvary's cross as his/her Substitute and My blood cleanses from
 all sin (1 John 1:7). My Father, You do not need to punish this believer because I was
 punished in his/her place!" Blessed Saviour! Perfect Substitute! Wonderful Advocate!

If we could lose our salvation, then Christ would have to stop being our Advocate. But
 the Bible says that "if any man _____, we keep on having an _____
 with the _____" (1 John 2:1). Will Christ stop being our Advocate and
 Helper? _____ Is it possible then for us to lose our salvation? _____

Read carefully 2 Samuel chapter 11 where we are given the account of David's great
 sin. Read 2 Samuel 12:1-14 also. What two wicked deeds did David do (2 Samuel 12:9)?
 1) _____ 2. _____
 _____ In 2 Samuel 12:1-14 find the verse where David confesses
 his sin: Verse _____. In Psalm 51 we have David's prayer of confession following his
 great sin. Find the two verses in which David confesses his sin: Verses _____
 Did David pray, "Restore unto me Thy salvation" (verse 12)? _____ Did David lose his
 salvation because of this great sin? _____ What did David lose (verse 12)? _____

Are you experiencing the JOY of your salvation? If not, then perhaps
 there is sin in your life that needs to be confessed. Read Psalm 139 and
 pray the same prayer that David prayed in verses 23 and 24. Psalm 51
 and Psalm 32 would also be good to read. Another helpful passage is
 1 John chapter 1 and the first two verses in chapter 2. Notice especially
 1 John 1:4—that your JOY may be full!