

Scriptures and Doctrine :: Can a sinner regain salvation if he/she lost it?

Can a sinner regain salvation if he/she lost it? - posted by jmooney6 (), on: 2009/9/2 1:44

Hello everyone. I am new here, and I'm glad that I have finally found a forum that can possibly help me.

Long story short, I became born again in Christ back in June of 2005, and for a few months, I abided in Jesus successfully. However, little by little, worldly cares started taking the place of Christ in my life, and sin increased as well. I even stopped reading the Bible.

All this while, though, I was under a delusion that I was still fine, that I was still a "true Christian", when in fact I was ignorant. Recently last month, however, I read something online that shocked me and opened my eyes, and I resolved to try and get right with the Lord once more, this time for good: studying the Bible daily, praying a lot, etc.

Of course, there is one part of the Bible that troubles me to no end, and no matter how many times I pray to have my worry lifted from me, it still bothers me that I may have gone too far and can't ever get back into God's good graces. Of course, that line is the infamous Hebrews 6:4-6.

To me, somebody who doesn't believe in OSAS, this is troubling. I know that I fell away, and I'm sorry that I ever did that. Know that the worry in me can be so great at times that it prevents me from producing good spiritual fruit, and also is causing me acid problems as well (and occasional weeping). I love Jesus and am frightened of an eternity without Him, not just afraid of hellfire mind you.

So my plea is, if a sinner like me fell away and possibly gave up my salvation (and I think I did), is it possible for me to get right with Jesus, to be saved once more? Is there any Scripture I may be accidentally overlooking that supports I can be saved again? If I can regain salvation, how can I let the Lord take away the burden of my worry so that my life may be peaceful? Please let me know. Any help is appreciated. God bless!

PS, if I posted this in the wrong section, please do let me know. I'm sorry if I did.

Re: Can a sinner regain salvation if he/she lost it?, on: 2009/9/2 3:40

Hi jmooney6,

Who told you or how did you know that you "abided in Jesus successfully" for a few months after you became "born again?"

In my opinion, It's very hard to interpret what "abiding in Christ" means since there's so many interpretations out there.

You mentioned that little by little, worldly cares started taking the place of Christ and sin also increased.

Let me ask you another question. Do you think that sins were "decreased" while you "abode" in Christ?

So often in my life, I'd think that I had less sin if I avoided some sin. It would seem reasonable. However, we've fallen into a bad trap if we think like this. The devil uses truth very well against us Christians.

Instead, we ought to think this way: Before I was a Christian, I had a multitude of sin. A few months after I became a Christian, I still have a multitude of sin. When I come to die, I'll still have that multitude of sin. I must always come to God as a sinner. Thanks be to God that He punished Christ for my sin.

It's such a heart-ache to watch my own life and see the attempts to "get right with the Lord" as you put it. I read my Bible, I pray, I stop this sin or that sin. Yet, none of this will ever get me right with the Lord. Satan lites a fire under us that causes us to run from Christ and pretends that it's the wrath of God coming for us. We're so frail.

The good news though is what Scripture says, "Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above)"

Everyone wants to know how they can go to heaven and they all think that the answer is in them giving something to God. Whether they give this bit of righteousness by ceasing from a sin. Whether they give this prayer. Whether they give the time spent in reading the Bible, etc.

God is so kind though. Instead of expecting us to "ascend into heaven," He brings Christ down to earth; that whosoever should believe in Him won't perish but have everlasting life and though he dies, yet he shall live.

Re: Can a sinner regain salvation if he/she lost it? - posted by KathleenP (), on: 2009/9/2 5:28

Desr Jmooney6,

I was just discussing my 15 years of backsliding with a sister in the Lord yesterday and how in anguish I cried out to God to take me back to Him.

I had a two pack smoking habit, consumed enormous amounts of alcohol, was addicted to gambling, and in great sin. I struggled with the scriptures that accused me that I had "crossed the line" and blasphemed God.

Jesus said in the book of John that all that came to Him would He in no wise cast out. He reminded me of King David's sin before all of Israel and how He forgave even him who should have been publically stoned.

You have barely begun to even walk with the Lord and I encourage you to seek Him with your whole heart and He will pull you up to Himself and daily strengthen you.

Seek Him and read His Word even if the battle is against you. He will help you and the truth will really set you free.

Don't even remotely trust in the counsel of men. Read His Word more than listening to others and you will begin to recognize His wonderful voice and see Him working in your life.

Most of all, pattern your life after the Word and not according to those professing Christianity. Ask for the fruits of the Holy Spirit which are meekness, humility and love.

I so pray you will receive strength and encouragement. May you know that what He has begun in you He is also able to complete and will complete.

God Bless you and comfort you and grant you hope.

Kathleen

Re: - posted by Heydave (), on: 2009/9/2 6:20

Dear Jmooney,

The post by Kathleen is very good and similar to what I would say to you. Please take this to heart and do not be condemned and confused by theological debates and positions based on theoretical situations. What is important is that you have a desire to come back to the Lord. This is the Lord's doing, He is drawing you. DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY, but seek him with all your heart. He will not reject any who come to Him.

There are many including myself, who can testify that we once backslid, but God in His mercy enabled us to return. I do not take this lightly, but am thankful that He enabled me to return and put that desire within me. It caused me to come back much stronger in my reliance and surrender to Him. As I said, I DO NOT TAKE THIS LIGHTLY and would not presume to think I can play with God's mercy and grace. I have no desire to drift away again, for who knows I may not have another chance of returning, my heart could be hardened. So this is why I say DO NOT miss this opportunity and run to Jesus Christ, seek him with all your heart.

I have just listened to the recommended sermon by Richard Owen Roberts called 'seek my face' <https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php?lid=7429>.

I would strongly recommend you listen to this. He talks at the beginning about the Hebrews 6 passage in a very practical (not theological) way.

What matters most is where we are with Christ NOW, not the past but the present. Our salvation is in Jesus Christ, not in a decision we made in the past. Are we trusting Him now.

May God bless you as you seek him.

Re: , on: 2009/9/2 8:07

Someone who is truly saved can not lose their salvation. The question is not "can someone lose their salvation" but instead should be "was that person truly saved to begin with".

Krispy

Re: Can a sinner regain salvation if he/she lost it?, on: 2009/9/2 8:25

Quote:

jmooney6 wrote:

So my plea is, if a sinner like me fell away and possibly gave up my salvation (and I think I did), is it possible for me to get right with Jesus, to be saved once more? Is there any Scripture I may be accidentally overlooking that supports I can be saved again? If I can regain salvation, how can I let the Lord take away the burden of my worry so that my life may be peaceful? Please let me know. Any help is appreciated. God bless!

Yes, there is *a*lways hope in Jesus Christ.

John 6:37

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

I just listened to a sermon by A. W. Tozer on the passage in Hebrews 6, <https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php?lid=2345&commentView=itemComments>

I think you will find it helpful in understanding the passage and the hope there is in Jesus Christ.

May God bless you with peace and understanding in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and the great salvation that He has provided for you.

~Joy

Re: Can a sinner regain salvation if he/she lost it? - posted by Logic, on: 2009/9/2 10:01

Quote:

-----jmooney6 wrote:

Of course, there is one part of the Bible that troubles me to no end, and no matter how many times I pray to have my worry lifted from me, it still bothers me that I may have gone too far and can't ever get back into God's good graces. Of course, that line is the infamous Hebrews 6:4-6.

You did not apostatize (fall away), of which the text speaks.

You only "back slidden, stumbled, turned aside...etc..."

The term "fall away" implies a total renunciation of your faith.

As if some Christian would come to the point and claim all he has been through, namely tasted of the heavenly gift, and partook of the Holy Spirit, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the age to come...

And after all that, he proclaims that it was all worthless and regrets it all; he takes it all back to the point that he wants no more part in it.

THEN it is impossible for him to be renewed again unto repentance.

Re: - posted by clintstone (), on: 2009/9/2 20:23

the always coming to God as a sinner statement, and paragraph , is not truth . we ought to be few on words and really know God's mind before we speak anything about Him .

Re: Can a sinner regain salvation if he/she lost it? - posted by Leo_Grace, on: 2009/9/2 21:28

Dear jmooney6,

First let me say that I agree with Kathleen's advice that you take this matter up with God one-on-one and not let the doctrines and interpretations of mere men bother you.

Having said that, I would like to express my take on this to you in the hope that it will help --- just remember to seek God's leading first through his word.

I'm pasting below what I had posted in another thread. This is my personal understanding of rebirth or regeneration, so it is open to criticism.

If you ask any Christian if they are born again, almost all of them will say yes. But we know from scripture (Mt 7:21-23) that on the day of judgment, many who claim Jesus as their Lord and Saviour will be disappointed to learn that they will not be allowed into God's kingdom.

The truth is one does not become a born-again Christian by declaring himself to be such. Neither can the declaration of a "religious authority" like a priest, or a pastor, or an evangelist make it so. Only God is qualified to decide the matter. However, he has provided sufficient guidelines in the Bible to help us assess ourselves in this regard.

First, we must make a distinction between a professing Christian and a born-again Christian. A professing Christian is one who has turned towards God and openly acknowledges Jesus as Lord. In a sense one can say that he has faith in God... but the critical question is what kind of faith? This distinction of different levels of faith or belief is explained in the Bible in Mt 13:1-23 (Parable of the Sower) and James 2:14-26 (Faith and Deeds).

A professing Christian can be likened to a new believer who believes in God and his word, yet has not yet imbibed a sufficient understanding of scripture and God's character to experience a life change (being born again). A professing Christian is still a seeker who has not yet reached the end of his journey. A reborn Christian is one who not only believes in God and his word, but also has come to a point of understanding where he is overwhelmed by the greatness of God's love, the majesty of God's holiness, and the sinfulness and unworthiness of his own life. The reborn Christian is so moved by these things that he truly falls in love with God the way it is prescribed by Jesus in Mt 22:36-40 "with all your heart and with all your soul and will all your mind".

I believe it is this "falling in love with God" phase that constitutes true rebirth. Of all human values, virtues, or emotions, it is love that has the power to change lives. It is love that changes one from being a "taker" (self-gratification) to being a "giver" (selflessly gratifying the object of our love). Love is what makes parents die for their children; it is what makes patriots die for their country; it is what made God give up his only son for us; it is what made Jesus die for our redemption; and it is what will make us live or die for Christ. That is why scripture says in 1Co 13:13 that love is greater than faith.

Mt 22:36-40 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

1Jn 4:7-8 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

The journey from being a professing Christian to a reborn Christian depends on how well the Holy Spirit is able to lead the believer. It can take an instant, or it may take a lifetime, and sometimes the journey is never completed. As explained in the parable of the sower, if we allow ourselves to be distracted, if we lose interest, and if we fail to become deeply-rooted we could fail to complete the journey --- thus we have a situation where a "born-again" Christian appears to lose his salvation and end up in hell. The truth is he was never born-again, though he claimed to be.

I am of the persuasion that a true born-again Christian --- one who has come to know God intimately, one who has fallen

totally in love with God, and whose overriding goal in life is to please God and God alone --- such a one can no longer be lost (Jn 10:29).

Love is so powerful that one would seek to please his or her beloved even in the absence of rewards and even with the threat of punishments. Thus we see how the apostles and many Christians devoted themselves to serving the cause of Christ even though they suffered and died for it.

One way I try to distinguish true born-again Christians from those who have still to reach that point is to ask: Why are you a Christian? Most would answer something like: To gain eternal life; to be blessed; to become righteous before God; to be with fellow believers; to gain guidance; to get to heaven, etc. To paraphrase these responses, they are saying "I am a Christian to get something good for myself" -- still with the attitude of a "taker" but definitely moving along the right path (thank God). But those who have been transformed would answer "I am a Christian because I love God", and if pushed they would admit that they would still be Christians even without the promise of salvation, even without heaven or hell, even without the promise of blessings. These are those who would suffer and die for Christ. These are those of whom the Bible says "the world was not worthy of them". These are the ones who can never fall away --- because they are in love with God.

Re: - posted by TaylorOtwell (), on: 2009/9/2 22:18

Quote:

-----Someone who is truly saved can not lose their salvation. The question is not "can someone lose their salvation" but instead should be "was that person truly saved to begin with". Krispy

Good observation, brother. :-)

Re: , on: 2009/9/2 22:33

Me too have been struggling with the same thing for the past 2 years. I also fell after about a few months after the Lord came in my life. I do wonder if there is a difference between a true conversion and a false conversion, and awakened and even a changed heart compared to a truly changed converted heart. I don't really know if you can be awakened without truly being saved or be awakened and still not get saved. I believed on Christ but not for salvation or to trust him to save me but to heal me, so my faith might have been placed in the wrong thing. I looked at Christ as a healer and deliverer. Look to him as your saviour of your soul and sins. Trust him and him only. Jesus Christ, you are justified by your faith. I started thinking about it, God never forsaked Israel completely, or any of the true believers like David, Peter, etc. He comes back to his sheep even the lost ones according to scripture.

Re: - posted by poet (), on: 2009/9/3 0:57

You remind me of a few things first you remind me of the parable of the sower.

Matthew:13 Therefore I speak to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:

15 For this people's heart is become gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.

17 For verily I say to you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see the things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear the things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.

19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the way side.

20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and immediately with joy receiveth it;

21 Yet he hath not root in himself, but endureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, forthwith he is offended.

22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

23 But he that receiveth seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; who also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some a hundred fold, some sixty, some thirty.

24 Another parable he proposed to them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field:

Next I'm reminded of the Prodigal Son.

Luke 15:11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:

12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.

13 And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14 And when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat; and no man gave to him.

17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father have bread enough and to spare, and I am perishing with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

21 And the son said to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

25 Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard music and dancing.

26 And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant.

27 And he said to him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him in his house.

28 And he was angry, and would not go in; therefore his father came out, and entreated him.

29 And he answering, said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither have I at any time transgressed thy commandment; and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:

30 But as soon as this thy son had come, who hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf.

31 And he said to him, Son, thou art ever with me: and all that I have is thine.

32 It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

So if originally a son, but comes to his mind and decides to go back for mercy, he will find it. But Only God brings this thought to mind, granting Repentance.. next verse.

2Tim 2:25

25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God perhaps will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth:

26 And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

Here God clearly grants repentance to those that oppose themselves, and recover out of the snare of the devil.

Quote:Of course, there is one part of the Bible that troubles me to no end, and no matter how many times I pray to have my worry lifted from me, it still bothers me that I may have gone too far and can't ever get back into God's good graces. Of course, that line is the infamous Hebrews 6:4-6.

True, it is impossible, but with God nothing is impossible, he is merciful, and that is why he is longsuffering, suffering us to repent and come back to him.

If he calls us, and we hear that call, we come to him and tell him our troubles and ask him to forgive us.

In your case, only God in my opinion is putting in your heart to get right with Him.

Only you can repent and follow him.

Don't worry about if you were saved before, or not, what matters is what are you at this acceptable time going to do, today is the day of salvation.

Turn to Jesus, confess, repent, and believe, and purpose to live for him.

God will hear you.

Re: - posted by elharris, on: 2009/9/3 10:13

Quote:

-----Quote:

Someone who is truly saved can not lose their salvation. The question is not "can someone lose their salvation" but instead should be "was that person truly saved to begin with". Krispy

Good observation, brother

Yes dear Brothers, quite an observation, and if I may, I would like to compare it to what Jesus said here.

Mat 25:31

Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Mat 25:35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Besides having a literal meaning in that when a brother or sister is hungry, needing physical food. Thirsty, needing a real glass of water. A stranger who needs lodging or a helping hand. Naked in that they have few clothes to wear. Or sick and in prison, in that we go visit them in the hospital or the prison.

ALL THESE THINGS, also represent how we are to know enough of his Word, that we can feed them the bread of life. Give them to drink of the water of life. Welcome them and treat them as family in the family of God, when we know them not. Clothe them with the Words, of righteousness, helping them turn from their sins, unto him who called them. Release them from the sickness and prisons of the strongholds of sin and unbelief in their minds, into the glorious liberty of those who truly know and understand the scriptures, the gospel of our dear Lord.

This dear Sister, has found herself to be in these situations, in her heart. Yet you give her no bread of life, you give her no water of life, you share nothing to turn her to righteousness, that will clothe her and bring her out of her prison, from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God.

Why here a sister in the Lord (if truly be that you are brothers) has a heartfelt problem and is asking for wisdom and understanding, and you come up with this "canned" quote, THAT DOES NOTHING, to teach, reprove, convict, encourage or comfort.

What do you give her? You give her a "CANNED" observation bothers.

"CANNED" in that you got that out of some religious "CAN" of quotes, that get passed on from one person to the next, that don't have a pinch of truth in them. No bread, no water, no clothing, no deliverance, no salvation.

I can only say what Jesus said, in that every idol word that men shall speak they shall give an account there of in the day of judgment, and that means you two, brothers.

Mat 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, (Well remember that girl on the internet) Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Quote:
-----Someone who is truly saved can not lose their salvation. The question is not "can someone lose their salvation" but instead should be "was that person truly saved to begin with". Krispy

You both need to repent for treating this sister like she is not even present, does not matter, and her posts do not have a real human being, beloved of the Lord, on the other end of them.

Let us hope your user name "Krispy", is not prophetic brother.

Re: - posted by Logic, on: 2009/9/3 10:24

Quote:
-----TaylorOtwell wrote:
Quote:
-----Someone who is truly saved can not lose their salvation. The question is not "can someone lose their salvation" but instead should be "was that person truly saved to begin with". Krispy

Good observation, brother. :-)

Only good to those who hold that doctrine.

Can a saved person be deceived?
Yes.

Can that deception lead to apostasy?
Yes.

Was that person saved?
Yes.

Can a saved person have "no root in himself" come up and be offended when "persecution occurring because of the Word"? (Mat 13:20-21)
Yes.

Can a saved person have the anxiety of this age, and the deceit of riches, choke the Word, and it becomes unfruitful, because of "thorns"? (Mat 13:22)
Yes.

Re: - posted by rookie (), on: 2009/9/3 10:40

Job 33:23 "If there is a messenger for him, A mediator, one among a thousand, To show man His uprightness,

Job 33:24 Then He is gracious to him, and says, 'Deliver him from going down to the Pit; I have found a ransom';

Job 33:25 His flesh shall be young like a child's, He shall return to the days of his youth.

Job 33:26 He shall pray to God, and He will delight in him, He shall see His face with joy, For He restores to man His righteousness.

Job 33:27 Then he looks at men and says, 'I have sinned, and perverted right, And it did not profit me.'

Job 33:28 He will redeem his soul from going down to the Pit, And his life shall see the light.

Job 33:29 "Behold, God works all these, Twice, , three with a man,

Job 33:30 To bring back his soul from the Pit, That he may be enlightened with the light of life.

In verse 27 the individual comes to understand that the ways he or she once live for do not profit the individual. Due to experiencing the goodness of God this individual testifies that his or her relationship with the Lord will not allow them to continue in the old ways.

In verse 29, we find that God continues to bring this individual back two or three times during his or her life so that they might be enlightened with the light of life.

But those who continue to disobey will die, for God will give them over to their carnal ways.

In Christ
Jeff

Re: - posted by elharris, on: 2009/9/3 11:10

Beloved Sister in the Lord,

When you first believed you were SEALED, with what is called the holy spirit of promise. You have this gift sealed up inside of you until the day of redemption.

Eph 1:13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

Eph 1:14 Which is the earnest (TOKEN) of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

The day of redemption, is the day that Jesus comes to gather together all those who are his. At THAT TIME, the seal will be opened, and the Lord will look at what is really in your heart and what you did with your life.

2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

People do not totally change overnight. Though we have heard stories of this, this is not the "norm". Rather it takes time, and learning of the Word of God, to overcome sin, and learn to walk righteously before him.

We slowly become transformed.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove

what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

The word transformed is a Greek word which meant metamorphosis, as in what a caterpillar goes through to become a butterfly. You have issues, sins and contrary thoughts in your mind that you do not even realize.

You have strongholds in your mind, that you do not even realize are there, and again this takes time in learning with the Lord, and living life to overcome them.

2 Cor 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

2 Cor 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Many Christians do not realize that the moment they believed on Christ, they entered a real WAR. So when the enemy comes along and tempts them and gets them to fall, they are totally unprepared for it. They think they lost their salvation.

But the truth is, you are given and assured of salvation, if you keep coming back to and following Jesus, even though you may fall. A baby has to learn to walk, a baby Christian has to learn to walk with the Lord, and overcome sin. Babies fall, but keep getting up and trying to walk. Even mature adults fall from time to time.

Keep this scripture as the apple of your eye. Listen to it, commit it to heart, and follow it.

John 8:31 31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Those Jews, he was talking to, had just finally and initially heard enough of his words, to make the decision to believe on him. But then he told them they must CONTINUE in his Words.

To continue means to live, abide and dwell in his words. By this they would become disciples (disciplined ones), they would eventually come to a knowledge of the truth, and be set free from the sin in their lives.

Being set free from the sin in your life, is not just continuing to sin, and then saying Jesus paid the price for it. Rather being set free from sin, is learning how to overcome sin and QUIT the sin. And it is not living a lifestyle of "habitual" sin.

We have an enemy, and his main purpose is to tempt and lead us into sin. Part of learning the truth, is also learning about this enemy we have, who so easily tempts our old man nature and draws us away into our own particular sins.

But as we learn of Christ, and resist the devil, and the temptation to sin, by putting on his commandments, sayings, and words, we receive faith and power to overcome that sin, and walk in righteousness instead.

God gives you SPACE, and TIME to come to repentance. But do not take that grace for granted, to purposely continue on in your faults. Seek the Word of God, keep your head in the word, and most of all PRAY, that you enter not into temptation, and that God will help you to escape. For as Jesus said: The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. So we must watch and pray every day for God's strength and guidance in overcoming these things.

You have not LOST your salvation, you have just begun your salvation. And must now that you have believed work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. You must come to a knowledge of your Lord, by daily reading of the gospels, and spend time with him.

If you sin, which you will, if you confess you sin, he is faithful and just to forgive your sin and cleanse you from all unrighteousness. But never take him for granted, and never sin presumptuously...as in..."Oh well God will forgive me."

God loves you, and he's given you all the tools and knowledge to be victorious, but it all takes time. Receive his gracious forgiveness, and move on to run that race that is set before you, looking unto Jesus who is the author and finisher of your faith.

Here are some more scriptures on this subject to ponder.

2 Cor 4:16 For which cause we faint not; **but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.**

Col 3:9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have **put off the old man with his deeds;**

Col 3:10 **And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:**

You don't do this overnight. And it's not a ever just a DONE DEAL, for any of us. You can ALWAYS go back...ALWAYS. Or you can as some who claim to be "saved", never do it at all, and yet claim they are "born again". These are those who write you good words and fair speeches telling you not to worry about overcoming or quitting sin.

The inward man is renewed according to the knowledge of the Word of God, that we MUST put in DAY by DAY. If we go a few days, we get weak and can succumb to sin, or fall back into the ways of the old man.

Rom 8:21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

Rom 8:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

Rom 8:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Only by staying **IN CHRIST, which means to stay in and abide DAILY in his words, by reading and meditating on them, do you receive POWER to obey them.** Then you will not so easily succumb to that old man nature which lies latent within your human body and mind.

Running with you, in the Lord Jesus Christ,
El Harris

NOTHING we ever did BEFORE we came to or believed on Jesus Christ, could make us good enough to receive that holy spirit of promise. Both those who naturally walked very righteously and those who are great sinners, and all those in between, are in the same boat, before Him.

ALL must believe on who Jesus Christ was, the son of God and that God raised him from the dead. At that instant of initial belief, you receive a spiritual cleansing by God through his spirit.

But AFTER this is when your work begins. For regardless of how wicked you may have been before you came to Christ, he now expects you to LEARN to walk worthy of what he has done for you, and called you to.

THIS TAKES TIME! You have habits and strongholds in your mind, that are contrary to what Jesus Christ taught is "right" or "righteous". He will reveal these things to you as you walk through life.

Many times we fall into sin, because there are things in our hearts the Lord is trying to show us, that we need to deal with.

Re: - posted by Leo_Grace, on: 2009/9/3 12:05

Dear elharris,

Quote:

-----Quote: Someone who is truly saved can not lose their salvation. The question is not "can someone lose their salvation" but instead should be "was that person truly saved to begin with".

Krispy

You both need to repent for treating this sister like she is not even present, does not matter, and her posts do not have a real human being, beloved of the Lord, on the other end of them. Let us hope your user name "Krispy", is not prophetic brother.

I think you may have been too quick and too harsh in your judgment and condemnation of Krispy. Though his response to jmooney6 may have been brief, it still is relevant to her question, and I believe that his post was made with the sincere desire to help her overcome her fears. He offered her real hope that she was not lost because she still had to attain the transformation or metamorphosis that you so nicely explained in your last post. This is what many consider the true rebirth, thus their doctrinal stand is once saved (reborn or transformed) always saved.

I agree that it is better to also cite the scriptural basis (the meat and drink) for such statements, but we don't know the circumstances under which he made his response. Maybe he was pressed for time and just had to post quickly.

Like you, I have not been an active member of this forum for very long, and I still have to get to know most of the regulars here. But I have read enough of Krispy's posts to be able to say that he is a loving Christian brother, and that his forum name "Krispy" is not prophetic.

Re: , on: 2009/9/3 12:51

"You both need to repent for treating this sister like she is not even present, does not matter, and her posts do not have a real human being, beloved of the Lord, on the other end of them.

Let us hope your user name "Krispy", is not prophetic brother." elharris

Is this really necessary? You tell others to repent for acting like someone isn't present and in the same breath you make an implication of someone's eternal salvation. You could have made your point without the last last line which makes you no better than the one's you were chastising to begin with.

Re: , on: 2009/9/3 12:58

I originally posted a response to elharris... but have decided to remove it. It wasn't bad or anything, but got to reading the responses of others on this forum and was humbled. Thank you, folks.

Love ya, elharris...

Krispy

Re: - posted by jmooney6 (), on: 2009/9/3 13:38

Dear brothers and sisters,

Before I continue, I just wanted to clarify that I am a fellow brother in Christ, not a sister. :lol: My name is Jim.

Thank you and God bless you all for your loving insights and help! I came as a naked stranger, hungry, thirsty, burdened, and I feel as if my thirst is quenched, hunger is satisfied, and mostly clothed in the Word (the rest which I must read on my own, of course). My burden has become a compelling, as I am compelled more than ever to get into my Bible to gain more spiritual understanding than I ever had.

I'm also starting to come to an understanding of things that really didn't occur to me. For one thing, I was running with my blinders on, being afraid of losing the salvation and love of Jesus because of my sin, seeking answers on Hebrews 6:4-6 everywhere on the net and not in the Bible, even though I started to read it seriously a month ago (which is why I disc

covered that passage in the first place).

The second is the main problem I have - swearing (not the oath kind) and quickness to anger (not full-blown anger, rather irritation, and not Holy anger either). I felt that if I'm truly in Christ, that this anger problem would go away. True, it produces thorns, and not fruit, and I feel it hinders the relationship I should have with Jesus.

The third thing is, I realized why I fell away originally. I wasn't reading my Bible at all back when I first accepted Christ, being under the foolish thinking "I'll read it when I have some time" rather than "I will make time to read it each day, at minimal 30 minutes if not more, more being better!" What a fool I was! :oops: I also need to pray a lot more fervently as well.

The fourth problem I'm having is my heart. There are times when I feel joy in my heart when reading the Bible or thinking about Him, but sometimes my heart feels like a rock. I'm praying that my heart be melted and be made into good soil, as I don't want it to be rock whose seeds become scorched and withered plants. Why does it feel that way sometimes?

The last problem is finding a way to get through college while making time for reading the Bible and talking to God. I feel that it gets in the way of what's truly important, and that is God.

Any assistance would be greatly welcomed, even just simply pointing me to passages within the Holy Scriptures to help open my eyes even further. :-) You all have been so helpful to me. I know now that God has directed me to a forum that can help me out and has already. God bless you all.

-Jim

Re: , on: 2009/9/3 14:00

Brother Jim... you will struggle with sin all your life. Just when you think you have the tiger by the tail and gain victory over your cussing and anger, the Lord will reveal something else that needs to go.

We are very much like an onion, but the Lord in His gracious wisdom is good about not revealing too much to us at one time. We couldn't handle it.

Does this mean when we find ourselves sinning that we lose our salvation? Of course not. Paul struggled with sin and even said something to effect of "The things I want to do I don't do... and the things I don't want to do... these are the things I do!"

You can hear the frustration in his words.

The fact that you are under conviction is proof to me that you are saved and have the Holy Spirit working in your life... otherwise you wouldn't care.

Be strong... you haven't lost your salvation. Sorry that this has turned into an opportunity for others to tirelessly, yet with much agony, once again debate this doctrine.

All I know is God is working on you. Don't despair. You'll never be perfect this side of heaven (tho some here think you can be... you can't)... but keep striving to serve Him moment by moment. Stay teachable. Stay humble. Stay in the Word.

Krispy

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/9/3 14:24

Jim,

This was a very hard passage for me also, although I never did believe I could lose salvation after what Christ has done for me, and the Father giving me to Christ of whom He says He won't lose any.

This is a bit long but it has given me the most truth of all the study I have done on Heb 6.

May it give you Jim some comfort in knowing who you are in Christ and He will never leave you or forsake you, His Pro

mine, not mine or anyone else's.

Gaebelein's Annotated Bible
Hebrews 6:1

CHAPTER 6

1. Return to Judaism the crucifixion of the Son of God afresh (6:1-8)
2. Persuaded of better things: Comfort and hope (6:9-20)

Verses 1-8. A solemn warning follows, addressed to these Hebrews who were halting and in danger of turning back to Judaism, and doing so would crucify the Son of God afresh. "Therefore leaving the word of the beginning of Christ, let us go on to full growth; not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and faith in God, of a teaching of baptisms, and of laying on of hands and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment." It is of much importance to see that these things are not "the principles of the doctrine of Christ" (as the authorized version erroneously states). These things mentioned are the elementary things which the Jews had before Christ came and as they were still occupied with them, He exhorts to leave the word of the beginning of Christ, the Messiah, and to go on to full growth. The full growth is Christianity as revealed in the finished work of Christ, the glory of His Person, His priesthood and the fact that the believer is in Christ and complete in Him.

While these Hebrews had believed in Christ, that He had come, they had not gone on to this maturity and lacked the spiritual knowledge of what Christ had done and the blessed results of His work and priesthood. They were therefore to leave the elementary things which they had and believed in as Jews, and abandoning them, reach the true Christian maturity. And these elementary things consisted in repentance from dead works and of faith in God. This was known and taught in Judaism. But it is faith in God, but nothing is said of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. When baptism is mentioned and laying on of hands it has nothing whatever to do with Christian baptism, and much less does the laying on of hands mean "confirmation." (Confirmation as practiced in the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Episcopal, and several other Protestant denominations is a merely ecclesiastical invention without the slightest scriptural foundation.) The word "baptism" is in the plural--"baptisms"--the different washings the Jews practice in connection with the ceremonial law, and so also the Jewish imposition of hands. These Jewish washings and purifications were only shadows of what was to come. It had come; and yet these Jews, though believing that Christ had come, still lingered in these things. Resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment, the things concerning the future were likewise the teachings they had in Judaism. But Christianity gives a higher truth, namely, "the resurrection from among the dead" and that the believer is passed from death unto life and shall not come into judgment.--"And this will he do if God permit"--that is in the coming unfolding of true Christianity, the full growth, as given in chapters 7-10.

Before the author of the Epistle does this he shows what it would mean if these Hebrews turn back to Judaism altogether, and instead of going on to full growth would abandon the Christian ground they occupied as professing believers in Christ. Such a course would make it impossible to renew them again to repentance, for they, by falling away, crucified afresh for themselves the Son of God, putting Him to open shame. They committed the crime, which was done by them through ignorance (Lu 23:34; Ac 3:17), now knowingly of their own will and choice. For such a wilful falling away there was no remedy. The things mentioned in verses 4 and 5 show the possibility that a person may be enlightened, and have tested, and even participated, by listening to the testimony of the Spirit concerning Christ, and seen miracles, the powers of the age to come--without having fully accepted the offered salvation.

"The warning here has been a sore perplexity to many who are far as possible from the condition which is here contemplated. The description of these apostates, solemn as it is, does not speak of them as children of God, as justified by faith, or in any way which would imply such things as these; and the apostle, after describing them, immediately adds, as to those whom he is addressing; 'But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, even things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.' This is the most distinct assurance that he had no thought of one who had known salvation incurring the doom of an apostate" Numerical Bible.

All the blessings offered upon Christian ground are to such outward professors like rain, which instead of bringing forth from the ground useful herbs, brings thorns and briers, worthless, high unto cursing, and then the end, to be burned. Of a true child of God this can never be said.

("When once we have understood that this passage is a comparison of the power of the spiritual system with Judaism, a

and that it speaks of giving up the former, after having known it, its difficulty disappears. The possession of life is not supposed, nor is that question touched. The passage speaks, not of life, but of the Holy Ghost as a power present in Christianity. To "taste the good word" is to have understood how precious that word is; and not the having been quickened by its means. Hence in speaking to the Jewish Christians he hopes better things and things which accompany salvation, so that at all these things could be there and yet no salvation. Fruit there could not be. That supports life" Synopsis of the Bible.)

Verses 9-20, Words of comfort and hope conclude this chapter. He addresses them now as "beloved," of whom he is persuaded of better things, the things which accompany salvation. Their true faith had been manifested by works. And God is not unrighteous "to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have showed towards His name in that ye have ministered unto the saints and do minister." These are things which accompany salvation. He encourages them to be followers of them who through patience and faith inherit the promises. He calls their attention to Abraham, the father of the faithful. He endured patiently and obtained the promise. And He gave not only the promise of His Word, but also His oath. "For when God made promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no greater, He swore by Himself." What assurance therefore--God's Word and God's oath. And this makes manifest to the heirs of promise (believers) the immutability of His counsel, so that we might have strong consolation. Therefore those who trust and hope for future glory have a strong and satisfying consolation. But there is more than that. There is a personal guarantee, for the Lord Jesus as a forerunner has entered into heaven, where He now is as high priest after the order of Melchisedec. He, who is our hope, is there as a forerunner and this is the anchor of the soul; it anchors in Him who hath entered within the veil. He who is seated in glory is the promised One, the object, bearer and dispenser of all the promises of God. In Him and His work all is made secure. His presence there speaks of the ultimate realization of all the promises of glory for His people.

Hebrews 6:9 But, (Jim) (my) beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.

I am surly persuaded of better thing of you Jim, especially things that accompany salvation, though we (all) speak.

In Christ, Your brother and fellow heirs with the Son of God to our Father's House, which Christ has promised He is preparing a place for us all.

In Him a new creature in Him, the Person Himself in you, "The hope of glory" Col 1:27

Phillip

Re: - posted by Leo_Grace, on: 2009/9/3 14:34

Dear Jim,

Forgive me for being drawn into the mistake regarding your gender. I'm glad to see that God has revealed to you the need to feed on His Word in order to succeed in the wonderful journey that you are on. As you keep learning from scripture under the light of the Spirit, and as you gain strength from the Spirit, you will find that your other problems like your emotional swings will slowly resolve.

1Jn 1:5-9 "This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. **But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

1Jn 2:3-6 **We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands.** The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

When I came to believe in God, way back in 1985, I burned with an all-consuming passion to read and understand His Word. I devoured the Bible, cover-to-cover, in a couple of weeks, and kept on reading it over and over again for years.

At the start, I spent so much time reading the Bible that I even neglected some of my duties at work. But you will find that as you gain in understanding of God's word, your heart will turn towards putting it into practice in your life. Then you will find a healthy balance between "feeding" and "exercising".

I'm sure that, as you grow in knowledge and faith, God will lead you to where he wants you to be, and he will have you excel in that calling. Don't be too quick to conclude that your studies necessarily hinder your walk with God. You must be open to the possibility that God wants you to be right where you are now. Pray about it and seek God's will.

In Christ's Love,
Leo

Re: , on: 2009/9/3 15:07

There have been those here who also thought I was a chick... er, woman.

My wife doesn't dig chicks. I am a man.

Happens to the best of us.

Krispy

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2009/9/3 20:07

That is why it is so important to let brother's and sister's know who you are by filling out just a little of your profile, at least your real name.

In Christ: Phillip

Re: - posted by jlosinski, on: 2009/9/3 23:42

Hey brother,

I would encourage you to do a study on the doctrine of imputed righteousness, it will (i pray) give you blessings of assurance and glory to Christ. I've grown up in a "holiness" church where much emphasis is placed on personal holiness and sanctification, but as I've been studying justification and imputation I've realized how magnificent the finished work of Christ is. An emphasis on the doctrine of sanctification without a solid foundation of justification/imputation can certainly lead to lack of assurance and even works righteousness.

Grace to you brother,
Joe

Re: - posted by jimp, on: 2009/9/4 8:22

hi, a lot of you folks are young and do not have experience of parenting.... i have a friend who has a son who is serving a life sentence in prison for torturing a man to death... she still loves her son and visit him all the time spends all her spare money on attorneys ... prays for him ... says he has repented... how much more does your heavenly Father, who sent His Son to die for you... whose mercies are new every morning love you. of course people can and do turn from God and pay great prices for sin but God said i will never leave you or forsake you... what sin is greater than the blood of the Lamb... unbelief? jimp

Re: - posted by clintstone (), on: 2009/9/9 18:25

praying the prayers of ephesians chapter one and ephesians chapter 3 for yourself, make these the cry of all that motivate you. "As a deer pants for the waters, so my soul longs after thee, oh Lord". Salvation's constitution is the beatitudes, study on these and what they work in us. May God grant you great grace and joy in Him. Clint