

Remaining Faithful

I. Introduction

- A. There are some who teach that salvation cannot possibly be lost, that once a person is saved, they will always be saved no matter what. We need to understand, however, that salvation can indeed be lost. In other words, it is conditioned upon our continued faithfulness,
- B. When I say that a person must remain faithful, the point is not that once a person becomes a Christian they are *grudgingly* bound to a stringent set of rules and restrictions that they must hold to *or else*. The fact is, we should want to remain faithful to the Lord.
- C. In this study, let's not only talk about the possibility of apostasy but also the reasons that a child of God should want to remain faithful.

II. Salvation Can be Lost

- A. Once a person is in grace, they can fall from grace (Gal. 5:4; Heb. 12:15).
- B. It is possible to fall from salvation (Heb. 6:4-8); we can draw back (Heb. 10:38-39).
- C. Paul taught that salvation could be lost (1 Cor. 9:24-27; 10:12; 11:28-34).
- D. Peter taught the possibility of apostasy as well (1 Pet. 5:8; 2 Pet. 2:4, 20-22; 3:17).
- E. Notice the conditional nature of salvation (1 Jn. 1:5-10; 2 Pet. 1:10).
- F. Finally, we are told to be faithful (Rev. 2:10).

III. God Expects Us to Seek Him Diligently

- A. We are to run with patience the race which is set before us (Heb. 12:1-2, 15).
- B. God rewards those who diligently seek Him (Heb. 11:6; 6:11).
- C. We are to be diligent in our maturity (2 Pet. 1:5-9; 3:14).

IV. Reasons for Remaining Faithful

- A. Faithfulness leads to salvation (Rev. 2:10).
- B. Faithfulness leads to a deeper understanding of the God of heaven (1 Jn. 4:16-18).
- C. Faithfulness leads to a more enriched life (Ph. 3:1-14).
- D. Faithfulness leads possibly to the salvation of others (Ph. 1:20; 2:15).
- E. Faithfulness leads to wonderful relationships in the church (Eph. 4:16; Heb. 10:24-25).
- F. Faithfulness leads to inner peace and comfort (Mt. 11:28-30; Rom. 8:6; Ph. 4:7).

V. Conclusion

- A. Faithfulness is crucial to salvation. We must remain faithful in order to see heaven.
- B. But faithfulness leads to so many blessings as well.
- C. In our next study, we will begin to look at what faithfulness involves.