

Eternal Life is Eternal

Introduction:

A. What is salvation?

1. The Greek word translated as “save” simply means to r_____.
2. In many contexts the teaching is that believers have been rescued from s_____.
 - a. This rescuing is a g_____ from God (Eph 2:8,9)
 - b. The gift of salvation is called e_____ life (Rom 6:23; Jn 3:16).

B. What is eternal life?

The starting point is a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ (Jn 17:3)

This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

A. Two Greek words translated as “know”

1. Intellectual knowledge (knowing the f_____)
2. Intimate knowledge (a p_____ relationship) – this is the word used in Jn 17:3.

B. Other places where the word “know” obviously refers to an intimate relationship.

1. Matt 7:22,23 – Jesus will say to those who falsely claim Him as their L_____ and falsely claim that they did many works in His name, “I NEVER knew you”
2. Matt 1:25 – Joseph kept Mary a v_____ until she gave birth to Jesus (KJV gives a word for word translation:
Joseph knew her not.

C. Is it possible for a person to mistakenly think that they have eternal life? (see 1Jn 5:13 - ...so that you [i.e. you who believe in Jesus] may k_____ that you have eternal life.

1. Eternal life has nothing to do with one’s c_____ level.
2. Eternal life is about the intimate c_____ of our spirit with God’s Spirit (1Cor 6:17).

The Savior preserves that relationship (Jn 10:28,29)

*I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish;
and no one will be able to snatch them out of My hand.*

A. The emphasis

1. English grammar prohibits us from using d_____ negatives.
2. The Greeks used double negatives to strengthen their p_____. (verse 28 reads from a Greek’s mind – *they shall not never ever perish*)

B. The promise

1. No one will snatch a believer out of Jesus' h_____
 - a. No d_____, not Satan, no person, nothing.
 - b. Nothing will be able to s_____ a believer from the love of God (Rom 8:38)
2. God can keep this promise because He is the A_____ (called this 58 times in the Bible).
3. Jesus k_____ us and the devil cannot touch us (1Jn 5:18)

The saved persevere in that relationship

A. Objection #1 – people can choose to jump out of Jesus hand

1. Romans 10:11 promises that whoever believes in Jesus will not be disappointed or ashamed.
2. No believer will w_____ to jump out of Jesus' hand.

B. Objection #2 – the teaching of eternal security encourages people to continue to live in sin.

1. A true believer cannot have the l_____ of sin (last week's message – 1Jn 3:6-9)
2. God works in every believer two things (Phil 2:13)
 - a. The d_____ to do what He wants
 - b. The a_____ to do what He wants

C. Objection #3 - many Christians have left the faith and so have lost their salvation.

1. 1Cor 15:1,2 gives a test of whether a person is truly saved in the first place.
 - a. Paul states that the Corinthian were saved by receiving the g_____ that he preached.
 - b. Paul states that the above is only true if they h_____ fast to the word he preached.
 - c. Paul states that if they do not hold fast then their faith was in v_____ (an empty faith, one that was not true faith).
2. Colossians 1:22,23 – gives a test of whether a person was truly reconciled in the first place.
 - a. Paul states that the Colossians are N_____ reconciled by Christ's death.
 - b. Paul states that the above is only true if they c_____ in the faith.
 - c. Other passages which teach that continued faith is the evidence that the initial faith was real (Rom 11:22; Heb 3:6,14).

Eternal life is eternal!