# Are we once saved always saved?

## I. What does the Bible say if we are saved than walk away?

2 Peter 2:20-22

- 20 (NIV) If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.
  21 (KJV) For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.
- 22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

## II. And for those who have experienced the highest level of spirituality in Christ.

#### Hebrews 6:4-6

- 4 For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit,
- 5 who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come—6 and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame.

## III. Here is the controversy. Aren't we saved by "faith?"

### **Ephesians 2:8**

8 - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

## IV. But James says we are saved by "works."

- James 2:14-22&26 (NKJV)
- 14 What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?
- 15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,
- 16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what *does it* profit?

#### V. Works prove that you have faith.

- 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.
- 18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.
- 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! 20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

- 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?
- 22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?
- 24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

## VI. This is what happens when we authentically get saved.

#### **Romans 6:1-7**

- 1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?
- 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
- 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

- 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:
- 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
- 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.



