

“Once Saved Always Saved”? Bible Study



Pamphleteering The “Once Saved, Always Saved” Issue

Welcome to this study on the **“Once Saved, Always Saved”** issue (other minor variations of this are called, “The Perseverance of the Saints” and “Eternal Security”).

“Once Saved, Always Saved” (OSAS) and its variations, are at the core, a DENIAL of Mortal Sin.

Let’s begin with prayer

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful;
And enkindle in them the fire of Your love.
Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created.
And You shall renew the face of the earth.**

Let Us Pray . . .

**O God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the gift of the same Spirit, we may always be truly wise and ever rejoice
in His consolation, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.**

**Hail Mary, Full of grace the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Notes

Introduction

We will begin with a brief section on justification or being made fit for Heaven. We will then define the concept of once saved, always saved (OSAS), applying that to our justification knowledge.

We will review what “mortal sin” is and how those that teach OSAS actually DENY MORTAL SIN!

We will review several common appeals to Scripture passages that OSAS followers use to prop-up this tradition.

We will review several Scripture passages that are incompatible with OSAS that “followers” avoid.

We will see a “Final Warning” concerning false teachers and pushers of OSAS.

Then we will close with discussion and prayer. There will be two Tables you may review on your own if you want more detail and depth.

Eternal Security – A Denial Of The Existence of Mortal Sin

Review Justification orally.

Concepts of the DENIAL of Mortal Sin in Christians is sometimes called “**Once Saved Always Saved**” (**OSAS**). There are a couple of minor variations of this so-called “Eternal Security” and another one called the “Perseverance of the Saints”.

Many (but not all) Protestants hold to some variation of this denial of the existence of mortal sin and they argue with each other over the variations involved of the three ways of denying mortal sin.

Some Protestants that teach this tradition will say: “Well if a “Christian” is involved in serious sin, it just means he was never REALLY SAVED in the first place! He was never a REAL Christian.”

Others will say: “If a Christian is involved in serious sin, it just means he is “backsliding” but he is still “saved” anyway! Absolutely nothing they do (i.e. murder, adultery, fornication, etc.) matters. “Your Heavenly destiny is a “done deal” or an irreversible act.”, they will argue.

We are not going to get involved with Protestants bickering with each other over these issues in this study. Rather we will just go to the essence of these false traditions, the denial of mortal sin.

“Eternal Security” means once you are REALLY “born-again” you WILL go to Heaven, no ifs ands or buts about it.

Mortal sin is when a person who is IN JESUS, who is in a state of grace, grievously, knowingly, and willingly sins. After a mortal sin, that person is NO LONGER in a state of grace. So let’s start by reviewing “mortal sin” in a little more depth. Mortal sin = A fall from grace.

Mortal Sin vs. Non-Mortal Sin

- There is sin which is “mortal” (or “deadly”)
- There is sin which is “not mortal” (or “not deadly”)

1st JOHN 5:16-17 16 If any one sees his brother committing **what is not a mortal sin**, he will ask, and God will give him life for those whose sin is **not mortal**.

There is sin which is mortal; I do not say that one is to pray for that.

17 All wrongdoing is sin, but

there is sin which is not mortal.

For sin that is NOT-mortal you can pray and God will forgive you (“he will **ask**, and God will give him life for those **whose sin is not mortal**.”) because you have a RELATIONSHIP with God.

For sin that IS “MORTAL” it **KILLS** the life of GRACE in you, you no longer have a living relationship with God in the same way. Therefore, now you can no longer merely PRAY for forgiveness. (“**There is sin which is mortal**; I do **not say** that one is to **pray** for that”). Mortal means “KILLS” the life of GRACE.

People in MORTAL SIN, NEED to REPENT FIRST. THEN they can effectively PRAY again.

And we know from our Confession study, part of our repentance in this situation is . . .
REPENTING BY GOING TO CONFESSION!

Okay. We can see mortal and non-mortal (also called “venial”) sin EXPLICITLY laid out in Scripture. Yet there are still people who claim to follow Scripture, yet still DENY this!

Why? Because it doesn’t fit with their Justification by faith ALONE tradition.

So how do they try to defend “Eternal Security” or “Once Saved, Always Saved” from Scripture? More on that question shortly. But for now I want to review Mortal sin deeper. . . .

Three conditions must be met for a sin to be mortal or for you to choose to kill the life of grace within yourself.

Mortal Sin

- Grave Matter (very serious sins)
- Full knowledge (A mentally handicapped person will have a different accountability or culpability than you, for example. You knew what you were doing.)
- Deliberate Consent

CCC 1857 For a *sin* to be *mortal*, three conditions must together be met: "Mortal sin is sin whose object is grave matter and which is also committed with full knowledge and deliberate consent."¹³¹

CCC 1855 *Mortal sin* destroys charity in the heart of man by a grave violation of God's law; it turns man away from God, who is his ultimate end and his beatitude, by preferring an inferior good to him.

Now let's look at the Biblical reasons and excuses people present to DENY the existence of mortal sin.

OSAS—Nothing Can Separate Us From The Love of God!

Objection: I'm Born Again! Nothing can separate me from the love of Christ¹! I cannot be lost!

ROMANS 8:35a, 38a, 39b 35 Who shall separate us from the **LOVE** of Christ? . . . 38 For I am sure that neither death, nor life, . . . **nor anything** else in all creation, **will be able to separate us from the LOVE of God IN CHRIST** Jesus our Lord.

Answer: With mortal sin, God still "LOVES" us. We don't deny that.

Mortal sin doesn't separate us from the "LOVE" of God.

Mortal sin separates us from the "LIFE" of God! Not the "love" of God.

Mortal sin cuts us off from the LIFE of GRACE!

Furthermore, Romans 8:35 etc. is talking about "**The Elect**". Who are "The Elect"? People who are in Christ (born again) AND PERSEVERE in Christ until death. Or fall from grace, but then COME BACK in GRACE and persevere until death.

"**The Reprobate**" are those who God offers Eternal Life to (perhaps daily?), but they REJECT God's advances. They do NOT PERSEVERE. They CHOOSE to go to Eternal Condemnation.

God knows the final result of ALL people right now because He is omniscient and out of the realm of time.

God predestines them for heaven (CCC 1037), but allows FREE WILL to mysteriously co-exist.

The Reprobate abuse their free will and choose Hell.

Not all who are "born again" are of "The Elect" as we will see shortly.

OSAS—There Is No Condemnation For Those In Christ Jesus!

Objection: Hey I'm a Born Again child of God. I am IN Christ Jesus. There is NO CONDEMNATION for me and the rest of those in Christ Jesus!

¹ **ROMANS 8:31b-39** If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? 33 Who shall bring any charge against **God's ELECT**? It is God who justifies; 34 who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? 35 Who shall separate us from **the love** of Christ? **Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?** 36 As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors **through him** who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

NOT romans 8:35 35 Who shall separate us from **the life** of Christ? **Shall idolatry, murder, or fornication, or adultery?**

ROMANS 8:1 1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who **ARE** in Christ Jesus.

Answer: That is correct. There is no condemnation for those who **ARE** IN CHRIST JESUS.

Mortal sin cuts a person off from the LIFE of Christ Jesus. So then you would NOT be “IN” Christ Jesus.

So then there IS CONDEMNATION for those who are NO LONGER IN CHRIST JESUS. (Unless they repent and get BACK IN Christ Jesus).

NOT romans 8:1 1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who **WERE** in Christ Jesus.

OSAS—The Appeal To Your Feelings And Emotions “Argument”

Many OSAS followers insist on good FEELINGS and “ASSURANCE” as at least part of the basis for their tradition. This is how the argument goes:

“Are you SURE you are going to Heaven? If you are NOT 100% SURE, I feel sorry for you not KNOWING. I KNOW I am saved!”

1st JOHN 5:13 13 I write this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may **know** that you have eternal life.

But there are problems with this **isolated** verse. 1st John says much MORE about this issue which gets IGNORED. 1st JOHN 2:3 for example, gets IGNORED.

1st JOHN 2:3 3 And by this we **may be sure** that we know him, **IF** we keep his **commandments**.

The word “IF” is used TWENTY TIMES in 1st John also gets ignored.

We want to be careful not to fall in to the sin of PRESUMPTION (more on THAT SIN on Table 3) which MAY lead to blasphemy against the Holy Spirit as we are not “inspired” in predicting our deathbed!

On the other hand, we as Catholic Christians DO have a MORAL ASUURANCE (as 1st John 2:3 teaches).

OSAS—The People In Mortal Sin Were NEVER REALLY In Christ In The First Place!

Objection: “These concerns about mortal sin are just people who were never IN Christ in the first place.”

Answer: Sometimes this is true (Matthew 7:23), but sometimes this is FALSE too. In mortal sin you DIE to the life of grace. How could they “DIE” to the life of grace if they NEVER “LIVED” in the life of GRACE?

Let’s look at St. John’s Gospel, John 15:1-6, 16a and we will even use the NIV translation (which is a Protestant Translation that many Protestants that assert OSAS like to use).

Would you say in John 15:1-2a below that Jesus is talking here about people who . . .

- A. . . . Were NEVER “IN ME” (in Jesus)? Or does it have to do with
- B. . . . People who are “IN ME” (IN Jesus)?

JOHN 15:1-2a (NIV) “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch **IN ME** that bears no fruit . . .

First of all, notice in John 15:2, St. John is teaching us about those “IN Jesus” (“He cuts off every branch **IN ME** that bears no fruit”).

OK. Now let’s go to John 15:3. **Would you say that in John 15:3 Jesus is discussing . . .**

- People who were NEVER in Jesus in the first place? Or
- People who are “already clean” (IN Jesus).

JOHN 15:2-4a (NIV) 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 **You are already clean** because of the word I have spoken to you.

People who are “in Jesus” or “already clean”. OK. Now let’s go to John 15:4

Would you say that in John 15:4 that Jesus is discussing . . .

- People who were NEVER in Jesus in the first place? Or is Jesus discussing
- People who are IN Jesus, but they have to REMAIN IN JESUS (you cannot “remain” IN—Jesus if you were never in Jesus in the first place, can you?)

JOHN 15:3-4 (NIV) 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 **REMAIN IN ME, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.**

Notice they are IN Jesus. But they are warned, that they must REMAIN “IN ME” (IN JESUS). And by REMAINING IN JESUS, we CAN bear fruit.

Now let’s read the whole passage.

JOHN 15:1-6, 16a (NIV) “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch IN ME that BEARS NO FRUIT, while every branch that DOES BEAR FRUIT he prunes so that it will be even MORE FRUITFUL. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 REMAIN **IN ME**, as I also remain in you. NO BRANCH CAN BEAR FRUIT BY ITSELF; it **MUST REMAIN IN THE VINE. Neither can you BEAR FRUIT unless you remain in me.** 5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. **IF you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.** 6 **If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, THROWN INTO THE FIRE AND BURNED.** . . .16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that **you might go and BEAR FRUIT fruit—FRUIT that will last**

In John 15:6a Jesus is talking about people who are IN Jesus, but by their own choice “do not remain in me” (choose to not to REMAIN IN Jesus).

Question. What happens to these people **who do NOT “REMAIN IN ME” (IN-Jesus)?**

JOHN 15:5-6a (NIV) 5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. **If you remain in me** and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.
6 **If you do not remain in me, _____?**

And if you do choose to not remain “IN ME” or “IN JESUS” (**notice Jesus thinks you can choose NOT to remain IN Him**), then what happens? Fortunately, Jesus tells us.

You are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and “BURNED”. (These are people who were IN THE VINE. They were IN JESUS. But they didn’t “REMAIN” IN-JESUS.)

JOHN 15:6 (NIV) 6 **If you do NOT REMAIN in me**, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, **thrown into the fire and burned.**

Would you say . . .

That these guys who get tossed into the fire to be burned, are in HEAVEN?

Do you think the guys Jesus is warning us about here who do NOT REMAIN IN HIM are merely “backsliding” but in Heaven anyway (“thrown into the FIRE and BURNED”)?

Or do you think such people are “thrown into the fire and burned”?

JOHN 15:5-6 (NIV) 5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; **such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.**

NOTICE they WERE IN Jesus! So much for the excuse “they were never IN-Jesus in the first place”.

But what about Matthew 7:23 some will ask?

Matthew 7:23 is discussing a subset of people who WERE “never saved”. We as Catholic Christians affirm there are people who were “never saved”.

But it is illogical to conclude that just because SOME PEOPLE WHO REJECT CHRIST their whole lives and NEVER had a relationship with Jesus . . . That ALL people choosing condemnation “NEVER KNEW” Christ. Because we see that WERE SOME people “in the Vine”. But then tragically they at some point chose to NOT BEAR FRUIT anymore at a certain point in their lives. And they get cast aside and BURNED. By the way. Before we look at Matthew 7, look at those going to Heaven and WHY. They DO THE WILL of The Father! (There is NO justification by faith ALONE.)

MATTHEW 7:20-23 20 Thus you will know them BY **THEIR FRUITS**. 21 "Not every one who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but HE WHO **DOES** THE WILL OF MY FATHER who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and **do many mighty works in your name?**' 23 And then will I declare to them, '**I NEVER KNEW YOU**; depart from me, **you EVILDOERS.**'

Yes, SOME people refused to be "IN JESUS" in the first place as per Matthew 7:23! But some ARE. Which passages do you believe? John 15? Or Matthew 7? Catholic Christians AFFIRM ALL THE VERSES!

OSAS—But Nobody Can Snatch The Saved Out of the Hand of God!

OSAS Position: Consider John 10:28-29. Jesus is trustworthy to not allow any one of His little ones to fall out of His hand. Jesus gives His sheep eternal life. NO ONE can snatch you out of Jesus' hand!

That's right. Nobody can snatch you out of the hand of God.

JOHN 10:28-29 (NIV) 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; **no one can snatch them out of my hand.**
29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; **no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.**

The simple answer is people can "JUMP OUT" of Jesus' hand.

But the more contextually accurate interpretation is "the reason WHY nobody can snatch them" is because they are of "The Elect" who God already KNOWS, with free-will AND GRACE, will PERSEVERE.

Q: How do we know these people in John 10:18-29 are of "The Elect"?

A: Because if you back up one verse, it will tell you (but you have to know the Greek in order to see it).

Since we don't have time to go into the Greek, we will just look at the verse and use common sense. But I will footnote the Greek for you for those that want more depth.

JOHN 10:27 (NIV) 27 My sheep **listen** to my voice; I know them, and **they follow me.**

Notice Jesus' sheep **listen² to** (or "hear") His voice.

If the OSAS claim were correct it should state: "my sheep **heard** my voice."

But of course it doesn't say that.

Jesus also says, "I **know³** them . . ." Not "I KNEW them."

This also suggests an **ongoing relationship** and NOT A MERE one-time acceptance.

Jesus points out about His sheep that . . . "they **follow⁴** me."

² The Greek word for "hear" or "listen" in this case is "akouo" (ακουει). This means to "hear" in an **ongoing** sense.²

³ The Greek word for "know" here is "ginosko" or "γινωσκω".

⁴ The Greek word that St. John uses for "follow" is "akoloutheo" or "ακολουθουνσιν."

Not “they followed me.”

This too implies an **ongoing following** or an accompaniment, not merely a moment of acceptance.

John 10:27-29 does NOT teach OSAS. Nor does ANY VERSE in the Bible.

John 10:27-29 is specifically talking about the people WHO PERSIST in GRACE. (Not those who reject it.)

JOHN 10:27-29 (NIV) 27 My sheep listen (Greek here is ONGOING) to my voice; I know them, and **they follow me**

(NOT “they followed me” one time. “Follow” here is ongoing and persisting.

They “FOLLOW ME and KEEP FOLLOWING Me”).

28 I give them eternal life, and **they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.** 29 My Father, who has given them to me,

is greater than all; **no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.**

These are “The Elect”. In the New Covenant, all “the Elect” are “born again” or “IN-JESUS”.

But not all people who are IN-JESUS, are among “The Elect”. (If you want to see how you can “make your calling and election sure” explicitly stated in Scripture, please see Table 4.)

The people who “stand firm until the end” or “PERSIST” are those who will be saved.

MATTHEW 24:12-13 12 Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, 13 but he who stands firm to the end will be saved

OSAS proponents will ALSO attempt to use John 6:37⁵ the same way as John 10:28-29 too. But that doesn’t work either for the same reasons as John 10:27—the ONGOING sense of the Greek which you can even see in the translation.

JOHN 6:37 37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me (not “whoever CAME to me”) I will never drive away.

Sometimes 1st Peter 1:4 will be used which talks about an imperishable “INHERITANCE”. Unfortunately, some people REJECT their “inheritance” as other verses tell us so that doesn’t work for OSAS either.

A Few (There Are More) Scripture Passages That Refute “Once Saved Always Saved”

We already looked at John 15:1-6 which refutes OSAS. Let’s look at some other verses too.

IN 2ND Peter 2, St. Peter is going to teach us about people who KNEW JESUS as their personal “LORD AND SAVIOR”. Notice these people CAN get re-tangled in the world and even”OVERCOME”!

⁵ We won’t unpack the Greek here except to say that Jesus is using not only a present tense here, but an **ongoing** present tense. “Whoever comes to me” not “whoever *came* to me.”

NOT john 6:37 37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever came to me cannot decide to leave the Vine.

2nd PETER 2:20-21 20 If they have **escaped the corruption** of the world by **knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

and are again **entangled** in it and **overcome**, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning. **21 It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness**, then to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.

In Matthew 6, Jesus is talking to people here who have GOD as their FATHER! Not to pagans. These are people who have God as their FATHER (not “the devil” as their father as some do in John 8:44)

MATTHEW 6:9, 14-15 9 Pray then like this: **Our Father** who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. . . . 14 For if you forgive men their trespasses, **your heavenly Father** also will forgive you; 15 but **if you do not forgive men their trespasses,** **neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

Did you catch that? There are people who have God as their Father. And Jesus WARNS them, if they REFUSE to FORGIVE, their Heavenly FATHER won’t forgive them.

In Revelation 22, we see people who can have a “share” in the “tree of life” and “the holy city” (the new Jerusalem—Heaven) and LOSE that “share” that they had through sin.

The Old Testament teaches, taught the same concept

EZEKIEL 18:24-26 24 But if a **righteous man turns from his righteousness** and commits sin **and does the same detestable things the wicked man does, will he live? None of the righteous things he has done will be remembered.**

Because of the unfaithfulness he is guilty of and because of the sins he has committed, HE WILL DIE.

25 “Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear, O house of Israel: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? 26 If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits sin, he will die for it; **because of the sin he has committed he will die.**

NOT ezekiel 18:24 24 But if a **righteous man turns from his righteousness** and commits sin **and does the same detestable things the wicked man does, will he live?** Yes. None of the righteous things he has done will matter but none of the detestable thing he did will matter either. **This guy is merely backsliding and he is going to Heaven anyway.**

We are called to PERSEVERE in being in the Vine. We are called to persevere in being IN CHRIST.

MATTHEW 24:13 13 But he who endures to the end will be saved.

JAMES 1:12 12 Blessed is the man who endures trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life which God has promised to those who love him.

HEBREWS 10:36 36 For you have NEED of ENDURANCE, so that you may do the will of God and receive what is promised.

You Need Faith To Be Saved. But You CAN LOSE Your Faith!

Catholic Christians affirm it is utterly necessary to have faith for our salvation!
We are **justified by FAITH** to be sure (but NEVER by faith ALONE).

HEBREWS 11:6 6 And **without faith it is impossible to please him**. For whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

You can lose your gift of faith. St. Paul in his letters to St. Timothy, puts forth this very warning.

- Some have “wandered away (from a pure heart and a good conscience **and a sincere faith**)” (1st Timothy 1:6),
- Some have “shipwrecked their faith” (1st Timothy 1:19),
- Some “**abandon the faith** and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.” (1st Timothy 4:1),
- Some have “denied the faith” (1st Timothy 5:8),
- Some have “wandered from the faith” (1st Timothy 6:21),
- Some have “wandered away **from the truth**” (2nd Timothy 2:18),

Catholic Christians again affirm it is absolutely necessary to have supernatural faith.
But we must ALSO have and persevere in supernatural hope, AND love (charity) as well.

ROMANS 8:24a 24 For in this **hope** we were **saved**.

1st CORINTHIANS 13:13 13 So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

NOT 1st Corinthians 13:13 13 So faith, hope, love abide, these three;
but the **greatest of these is FAITH so it fits with a man-made invention of faith ALONE.**

Beware Of False Teachers

Let’s begin by reading a TRUE teacher, St. Paul in 2nd Timothy 2.

If we disown Jesus, he will also disown us! There is NO “Once Saved, Always Saved” here or ANYWHERE in the Bible!

2nd TIMOTHY 2:11-13 11 Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; 12 **IF we endure, we will also reign with him.**

If we disown him, he will also disown us;

13 if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

Now let's listen to an audio of Chuck Swindoll, a former popular Calvinist (OSAS) Protestant radio and TV "Bible preacher" that I will play (text provided if you are not in-person listening to the audio):

Chuck Swindoll If you had trusted ed the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you are still a child of God.

YOU MAY DENY HIM, BUT HE WILL NEVER DENY YOU

Though you are faithless, He will remain faithful.

Look at the contrast:

- If you trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you are still a child of God.
YOU MAY DENY HIM, BUT HE WILL NEVER DENY YOU — Chuck Swindoll
- **IF we endure, we will also reign with him.**
IF WE DISOWN HIM, HE WILL ALSO DISOWN US —The Holy Spirit through St. Paul

Who are you going to believe? Chuck? Or The Holy Spirit and St. Paul?

Who Invented This False Doctrine of You Cannot Lose Your Salvation? I will let you decide.

GENESIS 3:1 a, c 4 1 Now the serpent . . . said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" 4 "**You will not surely die,**" **the serpent said to the woman.**

In Summary

We began with a brief section on justification or being made fit for Heaven. We then defined the concept of once saved, always saved (OSAS), applying OSAS to our justification knowledge.

We reviewed what "mortal sin" is, and how those that teach OSAS actually DENY MORTAL SIN!

We looked at several common appeals to Scripture passages that OSAS followers use to prop-up this false tradition.

We reviewed several **Scripture passages** that are **incompatible with OSAS** that "followers" often avoid.

On your own you can review Table 1, concerning John Calvin (because you can't mention the denial of mortal sin without John Calvin coming up sooner or later).

Table 2 has a Scriptural summary (it is NOT COMPLETE) of SOME of the things that constitute "GRAVE MATTER" with respect to mortal sin.

Table 3 explains the sin of presumption.

Table 4 shows you a Scriptural review on how you can "CONFIRM your CALLING AND ELECTION".

Some of the Canonized Saints call some of these things "signs of predestination" along with other signs like devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, devotion to the good angels, devotion to your "Guardian Angel" God has given you, etc. Signs of PREDESTINATION.

Let's close with prayer

TABLE 1 Historical Mention Of John Calvin

It would be inappropriate to discuss OSAS without at least a mention of John Calvin. John Calvin (1509-1564) was an ex-Catholic theologian, who left the Catholic Church in about 1530.

This OSAS doctrine (and some others) was largely propagated by John Calvin (some say “invented” by Calvin, but others insist OSAS was invented by satan in Genesis 3:4).

Because of this and other peculiar teachings of Calvin (i.e. “TULIP⁶ Calvinism”) which we will not have time to cover, “Once Saved, Always Saved” is sometimes known as “Calvinism” even among many Protestants.

There are other aspects of Calvinism too (again “TULIP”) but we didn’t attempt to detail them in this study.

A study on these subjects can get quite deep, getting into free will, God’s election, predestination, “predetermination”, “Arminianism,” getting into what God’s will is, including His “absolute will” and His “permissive will,” etc.

We wouldn’t be able to touch on these subjects in a study like this.

Table 2 What Constitutes Grave Matter In Scripture? Sins that if you have committed (there are others too), NEED to be given to Christ, through His Priest in the Confessional

Sacred Scripture gives several lists (none of them exhaustive) as to what constitutes “Grave Matter”. And although the NAME “grave matter” is not used, the PRINCIPLE is.

⁶ TULIP is a series of five Calvinist errors. T – Man is Totally depraved. U – Unconditional election. L – Limited Atonement (which teaches God does NOT WANT ALL people to be saved! And Jesus did NOT DIE FOR EVERYBODY!!! Yikes!). I – Irresistible Grace (God allegedly removes your free will in this area according to Calvinism). P – Perseverance of the Saints (which is basically Once Saved, Always Saved although Calvinists would add conditions and say this is oversimplified.)

All five points of Calvinism are bogus. Here are a few verses that are incompatible with the invention of “Limited Atonement”.

1st TIMOTHY 2:3b-6a . . . it is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 **who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.** 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 **who gave himself as a ransom for ALL**

See also 1st John 2:2, Hebrews 2:9, 1st Timothy 4:10, 2nd Peter 3:9, Revelation 22:17 and John 1:29. Also Peter 2:1 talks about the Reprobate who DENY the “sovereign Lord who BOUGHT them” (so even the “reprobate” were “bought” from Christ but REJECTED their redemption anyway).

Matthew 15:18-20, 1st Corinthians 6:9-11, Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:3-8, Colossians 3:5-10, and Revelation 21:8 and 22:15⁷ all implicitly refer to this “grave matter” in sin.

MATTHEW 15:18-20 18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a man. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. 20 These are what defile a man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man."

1st CORINTHIANS 6:9-11 9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? **Do not be deceived**; neither the immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, 10 nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.

GALATIANS 5:19-21 19 Now the works of the flesh are plain: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, anger, selfishness, dissension, party spirit, 21 envy, drunkenness, carousing, and the like. **I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**

EPHESIANS 5:3-8 3 But fornication and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is fitting among saints. 4 Let there be no filthiness, nor silly talk, nor levity, which are not fitting; but instead let there be thanksgiving. 5 **Be sure of this, that no fornicator or impure man, or one who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.** 6

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for it is because of these things that the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not associate with them, 8 for once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light

COLLOSSIANS 3:5-10 5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. 6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming. 7 In these you once walked, when you lived in them. 8 But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices 10 and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.

REVELATION 21:8 8 But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the polluted, as for murderers, fornicators, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, **their lot shall be in the lake that burns with fire and sulphur, which is the second death.**"

REVELATION 22:15 15 Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and fornicators and murderers and idolaters, and every one who loves and practices falsehood.

TABLE 3

More Details On The Sin Of Presumption Including Mentioning Of Blaspheming The Holy Spirit

The sin of presumption is ASSUMING you are saved, without your cooperation, ignoring to “make every EFFORT” (1st Peter 1:5). If persisted in until judgment, “presumption” is one of the ways to blaspheme the Holy Spirit. An unforgivable sin because you STOP SEEKING forgiveness. And God doesn’t FORCE forgiveness on you.

The Israelites seeking out John the Baptist were castigated by him, for thinking they couldn’t lose their salvation not because they “accepted Jesus into their hearts”. The Israelites seeking out John the Baptist were castigated by him, for thinking they couldn’t lose their salvation because they were descendants of Abraham as such they didn’t think they NEED to “BEAR FRUIT”. St. John the Baptist, corrects this error (and it is STILL an “ERROR” today for different reasons. Instead of Pharisees wrongly thinking they “can’t lose it” because of their ethnicity, now we

⁷ Thanks to 4marksofthechurch for listing some of these.

have Christians wrongly thinking they “can’t lose it” because of they came forth at a camp fire and “accepted Jesus into their heart as personal Lord and Savior” as I did and was told when I was off at Baptist Bible Camp as a senior in High School.

MATTHEW 3:8-10 8 Bear fruit that befits repentance, 9 and **do not PRESUME** to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 10 Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

CCC 2091 The first commandment is also concerned with sins against hope, namely, despair and presumption: By *despair*, man ceases to hope for his personal salvation from God, for help in attaining it or for the forgiveness of his sins. Despair is contrary to God's goodness, to his justice - for the Lord is faithful to his promises - and to his mercy.

CCC 2092 There are two kinds of *presumption*. Either man presumes upon his own capacities, (hoping to be able to save himself without help from on high), or he presumes upon God's almighty power or his mercy (hoping to obtain his forgiveness without conversion and glory without merit).

TABLE 4 A Scriptural Passage On “Confirming Your Calling And Election”

These are some of the reasons we can have a **moral assurance**.

“Working hard in our faith”, “goodness”, etc. if persevered in, is a sign of predestination! This working makes your “calling and **election** (these are “the **elect**”) sure!”

2nd PETER 1:5-11 (NIV) 5 For this very reason, **make every effort to add to your faith goodness**; and to goodness, **knowledge**; 6 and to knowledge, **self-control**; and to self-control, **perseverance**; and to perseverance, **godliness**; 7 and to godliness, **brotherly kindness**; and to brotherly kindness, **love**.
8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 But whoever does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, forgetting that **they been cleansed from his past sins**.
10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make **EVERY EFFORT to CONFIRM YOUR CALLING AND ELECTION**. For if you **DO THESE THINGS, you will never stumble**, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Notice St. Peter **doesn't** say: “Be sure to come forth at the stadium, and ask Jesus into your heart (as good as asking Jesus into our heart might be). Because by doing so, **you make your calling and election sure.**” He could have said that if that were true (it isn't true), but he didn't.

1st JOHN 2:3 3 And by this we **may be sure** that we know him, **IF** we keep his **commandments**.