



**SAVED TO SERVE**  
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**ONCE SAVED, ALWAYS SAVED?**

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study the science of salvation as seen through the sanctuary and disprove the idea of once saved, always saved.
2. **Note:** Many Christians have the idea that once they accept Jesus Christ as their Savior, they are saved and there is nothing more that needs to be done to maintain their salvation and there is nothing they can do to lose their salvation.
3. Romans 10:9, 10, 13 is one scripture people use to substantiate the claim of once saved, always saved. What does this scripture say we must do to be saved?

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4. Let us analyze the context of Romans 10 to understand if believing and confessing Jesus is the only thing necessary for our salvation. What was Paul's desire for Israel? Romans 10:1

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5. What pitfalls were many of God's professed people falling into? Romans 10:3

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6. What righteousness does Paul say we must receive to be saved? Romans 10:10

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7. Based on Romans 10, what steps must we take to experience righteousness by faith?

a) Romans 10:17 \_\_\_\_\_

b) Romans 10:9-10 \_\_\_\_\_

c) Romans 10:16 \_\_\_\_\_

d) **Note:** After we receive Jesus' righteous merits over our lives by believing in Him and confession, we must obey the gospel, even the ten commandments. If we do not obey, we are like the devils who believe but who will be lost. See James 2:19-20.

8. **Further study:** Romans 10:4 says that Jesus is the end of the law. Does this mean we must not keep God's commandments? That phrase simply means that we no longer have to try and fail to keep God's commandments in our own strength. The law is holy and good and it shows us what sin is. With Jesus' power in our lives, we have strength to keep God's Law. He will then cover our unrighteousness with His righteous character. See Romans 7:6-12, 14-15, 24-25.

9. What are some other scriptures people use to substantiate the false doctrine of once saved, always saved?

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10. What are some scriptures you would share with someone which disprove the once saved, always saved theory?

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11. Who are some examples of people who were once saved but then ended up lost?

a) 1 Samuel 15:16, 17, 23, 26; 1 Samuel 28:6 \_\_\_\_\_

b) Numbers 22:7-9; Numbers 31:16 \_\_\_\_\_

c) Matthew 10:1-4; Matthew 27:3-5 \_\_\_\_\_

## Rebuttals

12. Read Acts 16:30-33. It says that we are to believe and we will be saved. Does this account prove that believing is the only requirement for salvation?

a) What other spiritual step did the jailer and his family take after believing in Jesus? Acts 16:33; Mark 16:16

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b) What does baptism symbolize? Romans 6:3, 4

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c) Should we continue in sin after baptism? Romans 6:1, 2

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d) **Answer:** This means that after believing in Jesus, the jailer received baptism, an outward symbol of leaving behind sin and to live righteously thereafter. The jailer's faith led him to do good works, namely: baptism and obedience to God. When we sincerely believe in Jesus Christ and confess our sins, in that moment we are without sin and are saved. However, Jesus expects obedience to Him from that point forward (John 14:15).

13. One of the texts often used to prove once saved, always saved is found in John 10:28-29 which says that when God gives us eternal life no one is able to pluck us out of His hand. To whom does Jesus make this promise? John 10:27

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a) Based on John 10:27, what must we do to receive this promise? Luke 9:23

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b) **Note:** The condition for us to remain in God's hand is following Jesus' path of self denial and suffering (1 Peter 2:21, 22).

14. Read 1 John 3:9. Does this text prove the idea of once saved, always saved? **Answer:** No! It says that when the seed of God remains in him, he cannot sin. The seed represents the word of God (Luke 8:11). As long as we are connected to Jesus with the word in our hearts, we will not commit sin. However, if we allow the devil access to our lives, he can take God's word out of our hearts (Matthew 13:19) and tempt us to commit sin.

15. Let us now focus on what the Bible teaches about the process of salvation. How does Jesus describe Himself in John 14:6?

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16. Where can Jesus' way of salvation be found? Psalm 77:13 \_\_\_\_\_

17. What must we first see and experience before we will desire to repent and be saved by God? 1 John 4:19; Romans 2:4

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18. **Note:** Let us now transition and understand from scripture the science of salvation.

19. What must we first see and experience before we will desire to repent and be saved by God? 1 John 4:19; Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 5:14

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20. The first article of furniture that the sinner saw when he entered the earthly sanctuary was the altar of burnt offering (Exodus 40:6; Leviticus 4:7). How did Jesus show His love for us, and what must we behold everyday? John 10:15; 1:29

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21. How are we saved? Ephesians 2:8 \_\_\_\_\_

22. From what are we saved? Matthew 1:21; John 1:29; Romans 6:23

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23. Once I receive this grace through faith from Jesus, what must I do? What did the sinner do before killing the animal sacrifice?  
1 John 1:9; Leviticus 4:2-4

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24. Do our good works save us? Ephesians 2:9; 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

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25. Are good works necessary after receiving God's grace and forgiveness? Ephesians 2:10; Titus 3:7, 8

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26. Based on the furniture in the Holy Place of the earthly sanctuary (Exodus 25:30-32), what works are required by the forgiven sinner after receiving pardon for his sins?

A. Shewbread - Matthew 4:4; Job 23:12 \_\_\_\_\_

B. Altar of Incense - Psalm 141:2; 55:17 \_\_\_\_\_

C. Seven Branch Candlestick - Matthew 5:14-16 \_\_\_\_\_

27. Although a person can reject their salvation, can true Christians have the assurance of their salvation? Philippians 1:6; Jude 24; Ephesians 6:11, 17, 18

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28. As we close, meditate on the following quotations:

**“Peter's fall was not instantaneous, but gradual. Self-confidence led him to the belief that he was saved, and step after step was taken in the downward path, until he could deny his Master. Never can we safely put confidence in self or feel, this side of heaven, that we are secure against temptation. Those who accept the Saviour, however sincere their conversion, should never be taught to say or to feel that they are saved. This is misleading. Every one should be taught to cherish hope and faith; but even when we give ourselves to Christ and know that He accepts us, we are not beyond the reach of temptation. God's word declares, “Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried.” Daniel 12:10. Only he who endures the trial will receive the crown of life. (James 1:12.)” {COL 155.1}**

**“Those who accept Christ, and in their first confidence say, I am saved, are in danger of trusting to themselves. They lose sight of their own weakness and their constant need of divine strength. They are unprepared for Satan's devices, and under temptation many, like Peter, fall into the very depths of sin. We are admonished, “Let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall.” 1 Corinthians 10:12. Our only safety is in constant distrust of self, and dependence on Christ.” {COL 155.2}**