

# Them He Also Glorified

## *Per-severance of the Saints*

*Romans 8:28-38*

### **The Believer's Certainty** - not just hope but assurance = TULIP

1. Sovereignty
2. Foreknowledge
3. Depravity
4. Predestination
5. Election
6. Free Will - election problems
7. **Perseverance**

**The Question at Stake** - Do we really “know” or just hope that all things work together for good to them that love God?

### **Romans 8:28-33**

*28. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.*

*31. What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32. He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33. Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36. As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered 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 convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39. neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

### **The Ultimate Victory Is Assured**

(ie) Reading the last page of the book - spoils the book, or gives comfort to the worried.  
“They lived happily ever after.”

## Introduction

(ie) Wizard of Oz - Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain.

(ie) The End of the Book - I know how the story comes out. It cannot be changed!

**1. Perseverance Nonsense** - Eternal Security without regard to behavior, He preserves and we persevere.

Easy-believe-ism - once saved, always saved, no worry, no follow through, no discipleship

*Work out your salvation with fear and trembling... for it is God who is at work in you both to will and do his good pleasure. Philippians 2:12-13*

### What Eternal Security Does Not Mean

?? You can live like the devil. - *it is not a get-out-of-Hell-free card!*

?? Once saved, Always saved. (see John Piper on Perseverance)

?? Profession of faith = Possession of faith

?? All that glitters is gold. *The Wheat and Weeds grow together look alike. God knows.*

**3. Perseverance Purpose** - Our Assurance - our comfort - our security.

We know... *God's eternal purpose is always to glorify His Son.*

?? I am convinced ...Romans 8:38

?? God is able... 2 Tim. 1:12 able to keep that which I committed unto him.

?? He who began will perform it... Philippians 1:6

## 4. Perseverance Evidence

*How can I know for sure that I have been elected, predestined, foreknown, and kept?*

### Declaration of Dependence

?? John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

?? 2 Peter 1:10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if your do these things, you shall never fall:

?? Romans 8:15 For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

## 5. Perseverance Promises -

?? Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he who began a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

?? Philippians 2:13 For it is God who works in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

?? 2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

?? Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

?? Hebrews 10:14 For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

?? Hebrews 13:20-21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight

## Perseverance in Faith Is Evidence of Eternal Security

Finally, the fact that we are justified by faith which perseveres means that all of us who have made a start in the Christian life, by trusting Christ for the forgiveness of our sins and for the fulfillment of his promises to us, must be vigilant to fight the fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life (1 Timothy 6:12).

We must not think that justification and glorification are unconnected with our ongoing, persevering faith. "Once saved always saved" is true, if you understand it to include: "God will work sovereignly to keep you trusting him." Eternal security for all God's justified, sinful saints is true and precious. And the evidence of being eternally secure is perseverance in faith. Oh, there will be struggles and doubts and loss of assurance from time to time. But the justified children of God never forsake Christ utterly.

### John Piper says...

*So the person drifts along in sin and makes no business in life of holiness does not fall out of Christ. He was never in Christ.*

*So I conclude, if someone drifts away from God and makes shipwreck of faith, they do not lose a salvation that they once had but show by their lack of perseverance that they never truly belonged to Christ, were never born again, justified, adopted, and sealed by the Holy Spirit.*

John Piper, The Doctrine of Perseverance, April 24, 1988, Hebrews 5:11-6:12

### God keeps them.

- ?? 1 Corinthians 1:8, Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that you may be* blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
- ?? 2 Corinthians 1:22, "[God] sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge [=down payment]."
- ?? 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, "May the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass."
- ?? Romans 8:30, 35-39, "Those whom he justified, he also glorified. . . . Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? . . . No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 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."
- ?? 1 Peter 1:5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
- ?? Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,
- ?? Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he who began a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:
- ?? Philippians 2:13 For it is God who works in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

?? 1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto you are also called, and have professed a good profession before many witnesses.

?? 2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

## **Pay No Attention to that Man Behind the Curtain!**

*(ie) The Wizard of Oz - too often we ignore the Man behind the curtain.*

Dorothy: "Please, sir. We've done what you told us. We've brought you the broomstick of the Wicked Witch of the West. We melted her."

Wizard: "Oh...you liquidated her, eh? Very resourceful!"

Dorothy: "Yes, sir. So we'd like you to keep your promise to us...if you please sir."

Wizard: "Not so fast! Not so fast! I'll have to give the matter a little thought! Go away, and come back tomorrow!"

Dorothy: "Tomorrow? Oh, but I want to go home now!"

Wizard: "Do not arouse the wrath of The Great and Powerful Oz! I said come back tomorrow! The Great Oz has spoken!

Pay no attention to that man behind the curtain!"