

## “CAN A CHRISTIAN LOSE HIS SALVATION?” Q & A

1. Before this question is answered, the term “Christian” must be defined. A Christian is a person who has, by faith, fully trusted in Jesus Christ as the only Savior. Because faith is a gift from God, (Ephesians 2:8-10), and salvation is a gift from God, it would be helpful to examine what the Bible says about these gifts from God.
2. A Christian is a “new creation.” (2 Corinthians 5:17. This verse speaks of a person becoming an entirely new creature as a result of being “in Christ.” For a Christian to lose salvation, the new creation would have to be cancelled and reversed.
3. A Christian is redeemed. ( 1 Peter 1:18-19). The word “redeemed” refers to a purchase being made. For a Christian to lose salvation, God Himself would have to revoke His purpose that He paid with the precious blood of Christ.
4. A Christian is justified. (Romans 5:1). To “justify” means to “declare righteous.” For a Christian to lose His salvation, God would have to go back on His Word and “undeclare” what He had previously “declared.”
5. A Christian is promised eternal life (John 3:16). “Eternal” means forever, even past “time.” The reverse is also true. A non-Christian is promised eternity without Christ. (John 3:18, 36).
6. A Christian is guaranteed glorification (Romans 8:30). Romans 5:1 teaches that Justification and faith happen together. According to Romans 8:30, glorification is guaranteed for all God justifies.
7. The most frequent objections to the belief that a Christian cannot lose salvation are (1) what about those who are Christians and live an immoral lifestyle? – and – (2) what about those who are Christians but later reject the faith and deny Christ? The problem with these two objections is two words – “are Christians.” The Bible declares that a true Christian will not live a continually immoral lifestyle (I John 3:6). The Bible also declares that anyone who departs the faith is demonstrating that he/she never truly was a Christian ( I John 2:19).

Conclusion: Of course, none of this presupposes that a Christian will not sin. Also, it is possible for Christians to lack assurance of salvation (Psalm 51:12). A failure to grow spiritually can also rob us of confidence ( 2 Peter 1:9). But anyone indwelt by the Holy Spirit is secure eternally, because He is the “deposit guaranteeing our inheritance.” (Ephesians 1:14).