**The Book of**

 **Revelation**

Lesson Number Nine

 **“Walk Through the Bible” Series**

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**God wants us to be OVERCOMERS!**

**What is the Truth about the doctrine of “Eternal Security” or “Once Saved Always Saved?”**

It is commonly believed that this doctrine **ORIGINATED** as a part of John Calvin’s teachings.

1. Two schools of thought about the Gospel
	1. **Calvinism – JOHN CALVIN (July 10, 1509 – May 27, 1564)**

**To read about the Five Points of Calvinism go to www.JayMc.com** **/Websites/FOF/cal1.htm**

* + 1. **The Five Points of Calvinism (TULIP)**
			1. **Total Depravity**

**●** A man MUST be regenerated (born again) **BEFORE** he can believe in God.

* + - 1. **Unconditional Election**

**●** Only some people were called before the creation of the earth to be saved (Predestination).

* + - 1. **Limited Atonement**

**●** Atonement is limited in its scope. It is only for those who were predestined therefore some are also put on this earth with the express purpose of going to hell.

* + - 1. **Irresistible Grace**

**●** God’s grace is so strong and irresistible that anyone who is “predestined” will not be able to resist that grace by any means. Those who will be saved, will be and those who will not be saved, will not be.

* + - 1. **Perseverance of the Saints**

**● “**The foreknown are predestined, the predestined are called, the called are justified and the justified are glorified. No one is lost from this group. To belong to this people is to be eternally secure.”

* + 1. There is no such thing as free will.
		2. God alone chooses those who will be and will not be saved
		3. God is “sovereign” and decides for us regardless of what we want.
		4. Because there is no “free-will” you have no choice in the matter.
		5. Calvin taught “irresistible grace” which means God has chosen only certain people who will be saved and they absolutely cannot refuse His call.

**There are two “schools of thought” about the gospel.**

* 1. **Arminianism – JACOBUS ARMINIUS (10/10/1560 – 10/19/1609)**

**The Five Points of Arminianism**

* + - 1. **Human Free Will**

**●** This states that though man is fallen, he is not incapacitated by the sinful nature and can freely choose God. His will is not restricted and enslaved by his sinful nature.

* + - 1. **Conditional Election**

**●** God chose people for salvation based on His foreknowledge where God looks into the future to see who would respond to the gospel message.

* + - 1. **Universal Atonement**

**●** The position that Jesus bore the sin of everyone who ever lived.

* + - 1. **Resistible Grace**

**●** The teaching that the grace of God can be resisted and finally beaten so as to reject salvation in Christ.

* + - 1. **Fall from Grace**

**●** The teaching that a person can fall from grace and lose his salvation.

* + 1. Man has a free will.
		2. Through faith a man is saved and continues in salvation as long as he follows the Word.
		3. A person can walk away from his salvation by leaving his faith.
		4. “Apostasy (turning from Christ) is only committed through a deliberate, willful rejection of Jesus and renunciation of saving faith. Such apostasy is irremediable.”
	1. Both doctrines have been at **ODDS** with each other from the start.
	2. No doubt, the subject is one of great **CONTROVERSEY**.
1. Many great spiritual leaders have taught passionately from both sides of this debate.
	1. Whichever doctrine you believe will weigh heavily on what you believe about the condition of salvation.
	2. We MUST take into consideration the **WHOLE GOSPEL** and not pick and choose only certain scriptures that agree with our personal belief.

**2 Timothy 3:16 (NLT)**

16 **All Scripture** is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

* 1. We **MUST NOT** put our beliefs and assumptions above the Word of God and use scriptures to prove what we believe. **Let our beliefs follow the Word, do not let the Word follow our beliefs!**
	2. We **MUST NOT** be influenced by those we esteem in the ministry more than by what the Word of God teaches!
	3. We **SHOULD DO** as the Bereans did when Paul taught them.

**Acts 17:11 (KJV)**

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

* + 1. Receive the Word with all readiness of mind. You must LISTEN!
		2. Search the scriptures we will discuss and then let the Holy Spirit teach you.

**1 John 2:26-27 (NLT)**

26 I am writing these things to warn you about those who want to lead you astray. 27 But you have received the Holy Spirit, and he lives within you, so you don’t need anyone to teach you what is true. For the **Spirit teaches you everything you need to know, and what he teaches is true**—it is not a lie. So just as he has taught you, remain in fellowship with Christ.

1. We **MUST** use the Bible to establish our doctrine!

**Matthew 22:29 (NLT)**

29 Jesus replied, “Your mistake is that you don’t know the Scriptures, and you don’t know the power of God.

**Hosea 4:6 (KJV)**

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

1. “In the essentials, unity; in the non-essentials liberty.”
	1. Even though the Bible is very clear on this doctrine we must give other believers the right to disagree either way.
	2. Most of all, we must walk in love with one another.

**1 John 4:7-8 (KJV)**

7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. 8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

1. Scriptures used by those who **SUPPORT** the “eternal security” doctrine.
	1. **Ephesians 1:13-14 (GW)**

13 You heard and believed the message of truth, the Good News that he has saved you. In him **you were sealed with the Holy Spirit** whom he promised. 14 This Holy Spirit is the guarantee that we will receive our inheritance. We have this guarantee until we are set free to belong to him. God receives praise and glory for this.

* 1. **John 10:27-29 (KJV)**

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:
28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my and. 29 My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and **no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand.**

* 1. **Ephesians 4:30 (KJV)**

30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby **ye are sealed unto the day of redemption**.

* 1. **Romans 8:38-39 (KJV)**

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39  Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* 1. **Jude 1:24 (KJV)**

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,

1. Scriptures used by those who **OPPOSE** the “eternal security” doctrine.
	1. **Luke 9:23 (NLT)**

23 Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, **take up your cross daily**, and follow me.

* 1. **Matthew 19:17 (NLT)**

17 “Why ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. But to answer your question—if you want to receive eternal life, **keep the commandments**.”

* 1. **John 6:29 (NLT)**

29 Jesus told them, “This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one he has sent.”

* 1. **Galatians 5:2-4 (NLT)**

2 Listen! I, Paul, tell you this: If you are counting on circumcision to make you right with God, then Christ will be of no benefit to you.3 I’ll say it again. If you are trying to find favor with God by being circumcised, you must obey every regulation in the whole law of Moses.4 For if you are trying to make yourselves right with God by keeping the law, you have been cut off from Christ! **You have fallen away from God’s grace**.

* 1. **Hebrews 3:14 (NLT)**

14 For **if we are faithful to the end**, **trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed**, we will share in all that belongs to Christ.

* 1. **Matthew 10:22 (NLT)**

22 And all nations will hate you because you are my followers. But everyone who **endures to the end** will be saved.

* 1. **Revelation 2:26 (NLT)**

26 To all who are victorious, **who obey me to the very end**, To them I will give authority over all the nations.

* 1. **Jude 1:5 (NLT)**

5 So I want to remind you, though you already know these things, that Jesus first rescued the nation of Israel from Egypt, but later he **destroyed those who did not remain faithful.**

* 1. **Revelation 2:5 (NLT)**

5 Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don’t repent, I will come and **remove your lampstand** from its place among the churches.

* 1. **2 Peter 2:20-22 (NLT)**

20 And when people escape from the wickedness of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and **then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again**, they are **worse off than before**. 21 It would be better if they had never known the way to righteousness than to know it and then reject the command they were given to live a holy life.22 They prove the truth of this proverb: “A dog returns to its vomit.” And another says, “A washed pig returns to the mud.”

* 1. **2 Peter 2:4 (GW)**

4 God didn't spare angels who sinned. He threw them into hell, where he has secured them with chains of darkness and is holding them for judgment.

* 1. **Jude 1:6-7 (NLT)**

6 And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has kept them securely chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the great day of judgment. 7 And don’t forget Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighboring towns, which were filled with immorality and every kind of sexual perversion. Those cities were destroyed by fire and serve as a warning of the eternal fire of God’s judgment.

* 1. **Hebrews 2:1-3 (NLT)**

1 So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it.2 For the message God delivered through angels has always stood firm, and every violation of the law and every act of disobedience was punished. 3 So what makes us think we can escape if we ignore this great salvation that was first announced by the Lord Jesus himself and then delivered to us by those who heard him speak?

* 1. **John 15:4-6 (KJV)**

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for **without me ye can do nothing**. 6 **If a man abide not in me**, he is **cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.**

* 1. **2 Peter 2:15 (NLT)**

15 They have wandered off the right road and followed the footsteps of Balaam son of Beor, who loved to earn money by doing wrong.

* 1. **Matthew 24:4-5 (NLT)**

4 Jesus told them, “Don’t let anyone mislead you, 5 for many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah.’ They will deceive many.

* 1. **1 Corinthians 6:9 (NLT)**

9 Don’t you realize that those who do wrong will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Don’t fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, or who worship idols, or commit adultery, or are male prostitutes, or practice homosexuality,

* 1. **Galatians 5:19-21 (GW)**

19 Now, the effects of the corrupt nature are obvious: illicit sex, perversion, promiscuity, 20 idolatry, drug use, hatred, rivalry, jealousy, angry outbursts, selfish ambition, conflict, factions, 21 envy, drunkenness, wild partying, and similar things. I've told you in the past and I'm telling you again that people who do these kinds of things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

* 1. **Ephesians 5:5 (GW)**

5 You know very well that **no person who is involved** in sexual sin, perversion, or greed (which means worshiping wealth) **can have any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.**

* 1. **Galatians 6:7 (NLT)**

7 Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. **You will always harvest what you plant.**

* 1. **2 Timothy 3:13 (NLT)**

13 But evil people and impostors will flourish. They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived.

* 1. **Revelation 12:9 (NLT)**

9 This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels.

* 1. In the Book of Revelation, those who **OVERCOME** are promised great things!
		1. **To overcome, something must be done.** We must obey to the end! Rev. 2:26
		2. **Overcome is an action word, a verb. To defeat (someone or something); to affect someone very strongly or severely.**
		3. **To the Church in Ephesus**

**Revelation 2:7 (NLT)**

7 “Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. To everyone who is victorious I will give fruit from the tree of life in the paradise of God.

* + 1. **To the Church in Smyrna**

**Revelation 2:11 (NLT)**

11 “Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. Whoever is victorious will not be harmed by the second death.

* + 1. **To the Church in Pergamum**

**Revelation 2:17 (NLT)**

17 “Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. To everyone who is victorious I will give some of the manna that has been hidden away in heaven. And I will give to each one a white stone, and on the stone will be engraved a new name that no one understands except the one who receives it.

* + 1. **To the Church in Thyatira**

**Revelation 2:26-28 (NLT)**

26 To all who are victorious, **who obey me to the very end**, To them I will give authority over all the nations. 27 They will rule the nations with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots. 28 They will have the same authority I received from my Father, and I will also give them the morning star!

* + 1. **To the Church in Sardis**

**Revelation 3:5 (NLT)**

5 All who are victorious will be clothed in white. I will never erase their names from the Book of Life, but I will announce before my Father and his angels that they are mine.

* + 1. **To the Church in Philadelphia**

**Revelation 3:12 (NLT)**

12 All who are victorious will become pillars in the Temple of my God, and they will never have to leave it. And I will write on them the name of my God, and they will be citizens in the city of my God—the new Jerusalem that comes down from heaven from my God. And I will also write on them my new name.

* + 1. To the Church in Laodicea

**Revelation 3:21 (NLT)**

21 Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne.

1. **What is the Outcome of This Study?**
	1. Man can and is saved simply by **FAITH ALONE** in Christ.

The Holy Spirit draws a man’s heart, **then** a man believes unto salvation.

* 1. His faith continues as long as he keeps his faith in Christ then nothing can pluck him from God’s hand.
	2. Salvation is completely assured as long as we abide in Christ.
	3. Man must work out his salvation.

**Philippians 2:12 (KJV)**

12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

* 1. Hebrews 6 tells us of a class of people who can fall from their salvation and cannot be redeemed again.

**Hebrews 6:4-6 (NLT)**

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.

* + 1. They leave their salvation just like they got it.
		2. They, once they fulfill the requirements below, reject Christ.
			1. They cannot be brought back to salvation.
			2. There is no more sacrifice for their sin.
			3. Requirements that must be fulfilled to be able to do this.
1. They were once enlightened.
2. They have experienced the good things of heaven.
3. They have shared in the Holy Spirit.
4. They have tasted the goodness of the Word of God and the power of the age to come.

**Hebrews 10:26 (NLT)**

26 Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins.

This (**Heb. 6:4-6; Heb. 10:26**) is the “**UNPARDONABLE SIN**.”

**Mark 3:28-29 (NLT)**

28  “I tell you the truth, all sin and blasphemy can be forgiven,29  but anyone who blasphemes the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. This is a sin with eternal consequences.”

**Luke 12:10 (NLT)**

10 Anyone who speaks against the Son of Man can be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.

1. To walk with the Lord with a deep relationship and then to walk away from the Lord, rejecting all the Holy Spirit has done in your life is blaspheming the Holy Spirit.
2. There are many believers who fall away from the Lord out of ignorance and then come back to Him but they do not fit the criteria above.
3. The Holy Spirit will no longer draw those who have committed this sin of death.

**1 John 5:16 (NLT)**

16 If you see a Christian brother or sister sinning in a way that does not lead to death, you should pray, and God will give that person life. But there is a **sin that leads to DEATH**, and I am not saying you should pray for those who commit it.

When we see a brother walking in sin, we should pray for them, even to the point of turning some of them over to Satan for the **DESTRUCTION** of the flesh.

**1 Corinthians 5:1-5 (BBE)**

1 It is said, in fact, that there is among you a sin of the flesh, such as is not seen even among the Gentiles, that one of you has his father's wife. 2 And in place of feeling sorrow, you are pleased with yourselves, so that he who has done this thing has not been sent away from among you. 3 For I myself, being present in spirit though not in body, have come to a decision about him who has done this thing; 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you have come together with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus, 5 That this man is to be handed over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may have forgiveness in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1. This is NOT the “SIN UNTO DEATH.”
2. This sinner, through prayer and much gravity and solemnity, is turned over to Satan “for the destruction of his flesh so that his spirit may have forgiveness in the day of the Lord Jesus.”
3. We do not pray this kind of prayer for every sin!!!
4. It is useless to pray for a person who has committed this sin because there “remaineth no more sacrifice” for their sin.
5. We are not to **PRAY** for those who have committed the “sin unto death” (the unpardonable sin).
6. It is also likely that this person would not live long since he would not have the Holy Spirit in his life and he would not have angels watching over him.
7. Because this person has willfully and knowingly rejected God the Father’s plan of salvation, Jesus the Son’s atoning work on the cross and the cleansing work of the Holy Spirit in their lives that they would be used by Satan and would probably rail and blaspheme the entire Godhead.
	1. What a wicked, horrible thing this is!