

BIBLE QUESTIONS ANSWERED by DR. AYODEJI AWE

QUESTION 7 -CAN A SAVED MAN LOSE HIS SALVATION?

ANSWER-

The possibility of salvation loss does never emanate from the theoretical understanding of scripture; rather from practical intonation supplied by questionable lives of people who supposedly are Christians.

The popular script reads- For God so love the world, that He gave His only begotten son ,that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life(Jn.3:16).

If there was ever anyone who truly believes the Lord with the heart and confesses him with his mouth that He died for the sins of mankind and rose the third day, he shall be saved; for with the heart and mouth salvation is attained to (Rom.10:9-10).

The purpose of personal salvation and universal redemption is to reconnect man back to God in a father - son relationship and it is intended to be in perpetuity. Also, relationship demands inter-relational behaviors and ways of life. Therefore, whenever a man is born again through faith in Christ a special power is endowed (Jn.1:12). This power releases the ability to live a life that honors God. One therefore is called a Christian. It is a life of obedience to God and sensitivity to and actual repulsion to sin.

When this pattern is followed, there can never arise the question of possible loss of salvation. In instances where this question had come up, some expectations of a life in Christ had been let down. Sin and inappropriate lifestyle are probably evident.

This question about possible loss of salvation is one that has been prompted numerous times, in time and in various forms but they are all the same. Answers from the bible experts and Christian scholars have followed similar trends. Many, especially the fundamentalists, like Dr. J. Vernon McGee of Through the Bible and Dr. Charles Stanley of the First Baptist Church in Atlanta in his book titled, Eternal Security [to mention a few], have argued that salvation can never be lost. On the other hand, many in the Holiness Movement like some Pentecostals and those with puritanical tendencies believe that salvation can be lost. They believe that a sin un-confessed and therefore un-forgiven can cost eternal life. It is their convinced opinion that only those who stand firm to the end [death or rapture] are ultimately saved [Matt. 24:13]. Those who continue willfully in sin no matter their confession, they believed, are doomed if the rapture or death should come upon them [See Hebrews 10:26].

Never the less, this question looks like one that will never go away for as long as mankind struggles at obeying God and living for him. In as much as living holy remains extremely challenging which in itself is not validating, it follows that the question will remain uncooked. In spite of the obvious un-unanimity confronting the absolute answer in the form of yes or no, I believe that the fact that the bible never uses the language 'loss of salvation' adds an extra degree of difficulty. Though you and I can figure out the question and its validity, the answer will remain elusive probably until we get to heaven and ask Jesus. He only can answer this question that is fraught with personal implications. Hopefully it won't be too late then.

For prayers, counseling, opportunity to fellowship or to have your questions answered, contact us at:

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