

MAKING YOUR SALVATION SURE

Colossians 1.21-23

CAN WE LOSE OUR SALVATION?

Philippians 1.6 // 1 Corinthians 1.8, 9 // John 5.24, 6.37-40, 10.27-30
Romans 8.1, 28-39 // Jeremiah 32.40 // 2 Timothy 2.13 // 1 Peter 1.3-5

Guaranteed with a seal: 2 Corinthians 1.21, 22, 2 Corinthians 5.5, Ephesians 1.13, 14, 4.30, Hebrews 6.13-20.

SO WHAT IS PAUL SAYING?

2 Corinthians 13.5

In **Colossians 1.23**, Paul is describing what every true believer's life should look like. He has made a case that knowing Christ and being filled with the knowledge of His glory will result in a changed life, and here Paul, in part, describes what that life looks like. It's the long way of saying that Christ will "present you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him, *if indeed* you are a true believer, not a phony who will shift from the hope of the Gospel."

1 John 2.19, 20 // 2 John 9-11 // Matthew 7.17-23, 23.27, 28 // Mark 4.5-7
2 Timothy 3.5-8 // James 2.17-20

Christianity without discipleship is Christianity without Christ.

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

HOW CAN WE ENSURE THAT WE ARE BELIEVERS?

1 John 2.3-6, 28, 29, 4.13, 14, 5.13 // John 8.31-33, 14.15, 16

**If the Word of His power upholds all things in the universe,
can we also believe that His living and active written Word
can uphold our own lives?**

Psalms 19.7, 119.9, 11, 25 // John 8.31, 32 // 2 Peter 1.3-15



NOTES:

Other Suggested Resources:

Pastor Matt Chandler speaking on Colossians 1.21-23
www.thevillagechurch.net/sermon/from-alienation-to-reconciliation/

Pastor Tullian Tchividjian speaking on Colossians 1.21-23, click on Part 7
www.crpc.org/resources/sermons/series/colossians

Pastor John Piper in a 8 minute talk on "Can We Lose Our Salvation?"
www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/ask-pastor-john/can-a-born-again-christian-lose-salvation

WANT TO GET CONNECTED?

- **JOIN A COMMUNITY GROUP!**
If you want to get connected to a group of people near your neighborhood, let us know by filling out the **Connection Card** or visiting the **Connection Booth** in the Atrium!
- **JOIN A MINISTRY TEAM!**
We would love to have you come serve our community with us. Let us know on our **Connection Card** that you want to help!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

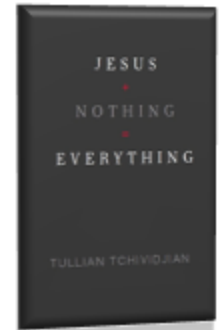
JESUS + NOTHING = EVERYTHING

If you ordered a book, they are available to pick up at the **Connection Booth** in the Courtyard. Please bring \$14 if you have not already paid. If you would like to order one still, it's not too late! Sign up today!

KIDS ON MISSION

Please log on to check out www.lifemissionchurch.com and click "Kids" at the top to read more about the vision and plan we have for our kids, including Pastor Jobey's heart and his walk through of our curriculum.

Also, the daily devotional book, **Long Story Short**, is available in the Atrium to purchase.



Jesus + Nothing = Everything
Reading Plan
Chapter 1, pages 17-24



SAVE.

Jesus was sent to save. We have been saved to be sent. We are sent into our community to share the Good News that Christ came to save us, and we hope to see many who find new life.

EQUIP.

We want to equip those very people in the Word so that they can continue to grow as disciples of Christ. From our preschool to our adults, our passion is to see everyone equipped in the Gospel to live a life of freedom and joy.

SEND.

Lastly, we then want to see those equipped people sent into their community and world. From schools and playgrounds, to families and work places, we want to see people who are spiritual leaders in their life, showing people the truth of Christ's Good News.

CONTACT US:

Jobey McGinty // Lead Pastor
jobey@lifemission.tv

Eric Price // Community and Connection
eric@lifemission.tv

Pete Christopher // Technical Arts
pete@lifemission.tv

Matt Piro // Worship Leader
matt@lifemission.tv

Audra Napolitano // Kids on Mission
audra@lifemission.tv

Kim Roberson // Administration
kim@lifemission.tv

Laurie Garcia // Administration
laurie@lifemission.tv

COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Read **Colossians 1.21-23**. What stuck out to you the most or was the most impactful from the message on Sunday or from these verses? _____

The question of whether we can lose our salvation or not is known as the doctrine of "eternal security" or "perseverance (or preservation) of the saints." Why do you think it's important for us to have a good, solid understanding of this doctrine?

Colossians 1.23 is one verse that many find troubling. Before the group, read through all the verses in the sermon notes under the "Can We Lose Our Salvation" heading. Which of these seem the most powerfully clear, and how does the practice of using "clearer" texts to interpret "less clear" texts help you approach this verse in Colossians? _____

Paul here is ensuring the Colossian believers that Christ will indeed, by His own power, deliver them to the Father as blameless and perfect. His caveat, however, is that this will happen *only if* they are truly adopted sons and daughters. How does Paul imply to the Colossians how you can *tell* whether or not you are an adopted son or daughter? _____

Why wouldn't Paul just say, "if indeed you are true believers"? _____

Read **2 Corinthians 13.5**. Why does Paul ask the Corinthians to examine themselves, and what do you think the "test" might be? _____

Read Jesus' words in **Matthew 7.17-23**, **1 John 2.19, 20**, and **2 Timothy 3.1-9**. How do these passages show us that simply saying or believing that you are a Christian is not what it takes to ensure that you are a Christian? _____

Martin Luther famously said, "we are saved by grace alone, but the grace that saves is never alone." He is echoing **James 2.14-20, 26**. Our works will *prove* that we are saved; but remember these works are not just outward works of obedience, but most importantly inward works of repentance, heart change, worship, and love for God and people (fruit of the Holy Spirit (**Galatians 5.19-26**)). In what ways have you seen "evidence," even if small, that you are saved and that the Holy Spirit is truly at work within you? _____

In what ways can you cultivate more fruit so that you can be more and more assured that you are an adopted child of God? See **Colossians 1.23** for a clue. Then read **John 17.17**, **2 Timothy 3.16, 17**, **Hebrews 4.12**.

Life Mission Church
PO Box 908, San Marcos, CA 92079
www.LifeMissionChurch.com
Facebook.com/LifeMissionChurch
Twitter: @YourLifeMission
YouTube.com/LifeMissionTV