**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | How You Can Be Sure You Are Eternally Secure |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | John 10:27-29 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1728 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. The only thing more wonderful than knowing you can be saved is being certain that you’re saved and knowing that once you’re saved, you can never lose your salvation.
   2. John 10:27-29
   3. Eternal security of the believer is not incidental but fundamental.
      1. Knowing that we are eternally secure is necessary for our spiritual health.
         1. Just as it is necessary for a child’s emotional strength to know that he is part of a family, so it is in the spiritual world.
            1. Those who don’t know that they are saved and secure do not have the emotional stability that a child of God ought to have.
      2. It’s important to know that we’re eternally secure if we are going to be productive, fruit-bearing Christians.
         1. When we know that our future is secure, we can concentrate on the present.
      3. It is important to know that we are eternally secure in that it helps us in evangelism and soul winning.
         1. Some people never get saved because they are afraid that they won’t be able to hold out.
            1. They fear making a false start and falling away.
   4. The God who saves us is the God who secures us.
   5. What does it mean to be a believer?
      1. A believer is not someone who just has head knowledge.
      2. This is not someone who just joins a church, is baptized, gives money and does religious things.
         1. These things are well and good, but these things cannot save.
      3. A believer is a person who has received Christ into his heart by faith.
         1. A believer has become a partaker of the divine nature.
            1. A believer has been twice-born; he has received the new birth.
         2. This person can never again be a lost soul.
      4. There are people whom we may think were saved who were never truly saved.
         1. Matthew 7:22-23
            1. Jesus did not say, “I once knew you, and you lost it.”
            2. Jesus said, “I never knew you.”
      5. A believer is not someone who professed to be religious and then turned away.
         1. A believer is someone who has truly received the Lord Jesus.
         2. John 10:27-29
         3. If a person joins a church, gets baptized, lives for God for a while, then goes away and stays away, then they were never saved.
            1. 1 John 2:19

The reason they fell away was because they were never truly saved.

* + - * 1. The faith that fizzles before the finish had a flaw from the first.
        2. They didn’t lose their salvation; they never had it.
      1. Judas never lost his salvation; he was never saved.
         1. Jesus knew from the beginning that Judas did not believe in Him.

John 6:70-71

* 1. When speaking of eternal security, we are not talking about eternal security for those who have never been saved, but for those who have a personal, vital relationship with God through Christ.
  2. The rest of today’s message will give reasons why and how you can know that you are eternally secure.

1. promise
   1. God has promised us eternal security.
   2. Romans 8:38-39
      1. The word “persuaded” means that he has a deep conviction.
      2. Paul gives a list of ten mighty opponents that cannot separate us from the love of God:
         1. Angels cannot do it, which includes good and bad angels.
            1. Satan is a fallen angel.
         2. “Principalities” means that kingdoms cannot do it.
         3. “Powers” means that authorities cannot do it.
         4. “Things present” means that anything that happens in the world today cannot do it.
         5. “Things to come” means that anything that may ever be created or come into being cannot do it.
         6. “Heights” means anything in Heaven above.
         7. “Depths” means anything in Hell beneath.
         8. “Any other creature” covers all the bases.
      3. There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God.
2. perseverance
   1. God will complete what He has begun.
   2. Philippians 1:6
      1. When we get saved, it is God (not us) who begins the good work in us.
      2. 1 John 4:19
   3. The Holy Spirit is the agent of the new birth.
      1. He is the convicter.
         1. He is the one who convicts us of sin.
         2. He is the one who shows us that we are sinners who need to be saved.
      2. He is the converter.
         1. He is the one who opens our eyes.
         2. He is the one who helps us understand the Gospel.
         3. He is the one who puts faith in our hearts and helps us receive the Lord Jesus Christ.
      3. He is the completer.
         1. Philippians 1:6
         2. God has never started anything that He can’t finish.
         3. If any child of God were to perish, then that would mean that God the Father is defeated in His purpose.
            1. It would mean that God the Son is disappointed that His blood has no saving efficacy to keep.
            2. It would mean that God the Holy Spirit is disgraced because He’s not able to complete that which He began.
   4. It’s not the saints who persevere; it is the God of glory who is able to complete that which He has begun.
3. predestination
   1. Romans 8:29-30
      1. “Predestinate” means that your destiny is already predetermined.
         1. You cannot be more sure than predestined.
      2. In these verses, God gives us a chain with five golden links:
         1. Foreknowledge
         2. Predestination
         3. Calling
         4. Justification
         5. Glorification
      3. If you are a child of God, then God already sees you glorified.
         1. This passage in Romans does not say that He “will” glorify, but that you are already glorified.
   2. Our salvation did not begin with us.
      1. It began before the world was created.
         1. God saw us before He ever created this world, and He saw us glorified.
   3. God sees the past, present and future all at one time.
      1. God sees us now already in Heaven.
   4. God sees us predestined to be like Jesus.
      1. How could we ever lose our salvation if we are already predestined to be like Him?
   5. What is settled in eternity cannot be undone in time.
   6. What has been decreed by Heaven cannot be annulled by Hell.
   7. Romans 11:29
      1. God never changes His mind.
         1. God foreknew, He called, and He predetermined that we would be like the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. perfection
   1. Hebrews 10:14
      1. That one offering is the precious blood of Jesus poured out on Calvary’s cross.
         1. That one offering makes us perfect forever.
   2. When we get saved, we don’t just get a fresh start.
      1. God doesn’t make the down payment and then leave it up to us to make the monthly installments.
         1. He paid it all the way through.
      2. We are made perfect forever in God’s sight.
         1. We didn’t get a fresh start; we got a new nature.
   3. Nowhere in the Bible can we find anyone who was ever saved twice.
      1. It is impossible to be saved twice.
         1. In order to be saved twice, Jesus would have to die twice.
         2. Jesus is not going back to the cross.
            1. For by one offering, we are perfected forever.

Hebrews 10:14

* 1. In our flesh, we are not perfect.
     1. We can disobey God, and He will discipline us if we do.
        1. Hebrews 12:6
  2. Romans 4:5-6
     1. We are not saved by doing good works.
     2. “Impute” means to put on your account.
        1. God imputes, or puts, righteousness on our account.
           1. Not one thing did we do in order to get saved.
  3. Romans 4:7
     1. Not only does God forgive our sins, but He won’t bring them up again.
        1. They are gone.
        2. Because we confessed them, God forgave them.
  4. Romans 4:8
     1. One-half of one sin would send us to Hell forever.
     2. Blessed are we to whom God will not impute sin.

1. position
   1. We are already positioned in the Lord Jesus Christ.
   2. 2 Corinthians 5:17
      1. The old creation is Adam and his children.
      2. The new creation is Jesus and His children.
   3. Everybody is either in Adam (the old creation) or in Christ (the new creation).
      1. As Christians, we are in the Lord Jesus Christ.
         1. What pertains to Jesus pertains to us.
            1. We lose our relationship with God the Father when Jesus Christ loses His because we are in Christ.
         2. What is true of Christ is true of us because we are in Christ.
            1. We are not Christ, but we are in Christ.
            2. We are part of His body.

Someone once asked, “What if you slip out of His hand?”

We can’t slip out; we are one of His fingers.

We are in the Lord Jesus.

* 1. This is illustrated by Noah’s ark.
     1. Peter tells us that Noah’s ark is a picture of our salvation.
        1. 1 Peter 3:20-21
     2. Noah’s ark is a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ.
     3. God did not leave Noah and his family on the outside of the ark trying to hold on as best they could.
     4. God brought Noah and his family inside the ark.
        1. If any man be in Christ.
           1. 2 Corinthians 5:17
     5. Genesis 7:1
        1. When God said, “Come in,” that meant that God was inside.
     6. Genesis 7:16
        1. God shut the door; it wasn’t Noah who shut the door.
           1. He shut the door to shut the water out and to shut Noah in.
        2. There wasn’t a doorknob on the inside.
           1. Ephesians 1:13

After we have believed, we are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.

* + - 1. God shut Noah in the ark with Himself.
    1. The only way that Noah could have gone down would have been for the ark to go down.
       1. The only way we can lose our salvation is for Jesus to go down because we are in Christ.
       2. Noah may have fallen down many times inside the ark, but he never fell out of the ark.
  1. Some people think that they will only be secure when they get to Heaven.
     1. Why would we be safe in Heaven if we’re not safe down here?
     2. The angels fell from Heaven.
        1. Security is not in a place; it is in a person, and His name is Jesus.

1. possession
   1. John 5:24
      1. Everlasting life is not something we get when we die.
      2. Everlasting life is something we get when we believe.
   2. If a person could lose their salvation, then what they had was not eternal life.
   3. Eternal life is our possession right now.
      1. Our eternal life began the moment we received the Lord Jesus.
   4. 1 John 5:12
2. prayer
   1. Jesus is interceding for us.
      1. He is praying for us.
   2. John 17:9, 15
      1. “The world” in this passage means the unsaved.
      2. The Lord Jesus has never prayed a prayer that wasn’t answered because He always prays in the will of the Father.
      3. The Lord Jesus was not praying this prayer just for Peter, James and John.
         1. John 17:20
            1. The Lord Jesus has prayed for us that we’ll be kept.

If we were not kept, then His prayer would not be answered.

* 1. Luke 22:31-32
     1. Jesus prayed for Peter that his faith would not fail, and it did not fail.
        1. Though Peter stumbled, he was the mighty apostle of Pentecost.
  2. Hebrews 7:25
     1. We have a Savior who is praying for us day by day, night by night, and year by year on the basis of His perfect sacrifice.

1. power
   1. 1 Peter 1:3-5
      1. We are kept by the power of God.
   2. John 10:27-28
      1. There is no power strong enough to pry open the mighty hand of God and of the Lord Jesus.
         1. John 10:29
   3. Some question whether or not Satan is able to pluck us out of God’s hand.
      1. In John 10:29, the word “man” is italicized, meaning that it is supplied by the translator to make it read more smoothly.
         1. This passage literally says, “neither shall any pluck them out of my hand.”
      2. Luke 22:31-32
         1. Satan desired Peter.
      3. If Satan is able to pluck us out of the Father’s hand, then why hasn’t he done it?
         1. The only reason he hasn’t is because he can’t.
      4. If Satan were able to take us out of the Father’s hand and he hasn’t done it, then that would mean that Satan has been good to us.
         1. And we would be going to Heaven by the goodness of the devil.
   4. Some have questioned whether or not we can take ourselves out of God’s hand.
      1. John 10:27-28
         1. “They shall never perish” is in the middle voice, which literally means, “they shall never destroy themselves.”
2. CONCLUSION
   1. Give your heart to Jesus today.
      1. He will save you and keep you.
   2. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   3. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16