Preservation of the Saints - Scripture List

Published: Sunday 23rd of March 2014 22:28 by Simon Wartanian
URL: https://www.thecalvinist.net/post/Preservation-Of-The-Saints-Scripture-List



Preservation of the Saints[1]

Some prefer saying “the preservation of the saints” to emphasize that this is the work of God: others use the phrase “eternal security” to emphasize the impossibility of God’s perfect work of salvation being undone. But whatever one calls it, it is the belief that when Christ save one of His elect, he will not fail to keep that saved person throughout life and bring them safely in to His presence. It is, in short, the belief that Christ is able to save perfectly.[2]

All who are chosen by God, redeemed by Christ, and given faith by the Spirit, are eternally saved. They are kept in faith by the power of almighty God, and thus persevere to the end.[3]

For a biblical defense and an exegetical case for this doctrine, also containing answers to passages supposedly refuting the doctrine of Perseverance see here.

If God brings you to it, He will get you through it

Ps 138:8 *The **LORD will fulfill his purpose for me**; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.*

Ecc 3:14 *I perceived that **whatever God does endures forever**; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it. God has done it, so that people fear before him.*

Isa 46:3-4 *“Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the womb; 4 even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs **I will carry you**. I have made, and **I will bear**; **I will carry and will save.***

1Cor 1:4-9 *I give thanks to my God always for you because of the **grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus**,* 5 *that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—* 6 *even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—* 7 *so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,* [8] *who **will sustain you to the end**, **guiltless** in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.* 9 ***God is faithful**, by whom **you were called** into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Col 3:3-4 *For **you have died**, and your **life is hidden with Christ** in God.* 4 *When **Christ who is your life** appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

Phil 1:6 *And I am sure of this, that **he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion** at the day of Jesus Christ.*

2Tim 4:18 *The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and **bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom**. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

1Pet 1:3-5 *Blessed be the **God and Father** of our **Lord Jesus Christ**! According to **his great mercy**, he has **caused us to be born again** to a living hope through the **resurrection of Jesus** Christ from the dead,* 4 *to an **inheritance that is imperishable**, undefiled, and unfading, **kept in heaven for you**,* 5 *who **by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation** ready to be revealed in the last time.*

None of Christ's sheep will be lost—ever!

Jn 6:39-40 *And this is the **will of him who sent me**, that I should **lose nothing of all that he has given me**, but raise it up on the last day.* 40 *For this is the will of my Father, that **everyone who looks on the Son** and **believes in him should have eternal life,** and I will raise him up on the last day."*

Jn 10:27-29 ***My sheep hear my voice**, and **I know them**, and they follow me.* 28 ***I give them eternal life**, and **they will never perish,** and **no one will snatch them out of my hand**.* 29 *My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and **no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.***

Rom 8:35-39 *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?* 36 *As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."* 37 *No, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him who loved us**.* 38 *For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,* 39 *nor height nor depth, **nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God** in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Eph 1:13-14 *In him you also, when you **heard the word of truth**, the gospel of your salvation, and **believed in him,** were **sealed with the promised Holy Spirit**,* 14 *who is the **guarantee of our inheritance** until we acquire possession of it, **to the praise of his glory.***

Eph 4:30 *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were **sealed for the day of redemption**.*

Heb 7:25 *Consequently, he is able to **save to the uttermost those who draw near to God** through him, since he **always lives to make intercession for them**.*

Heb 10:14 *For by a **single offering** he has **perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.***

God causes His sheep to persevere in the faith

Jn 15:16 ***You did not choose me**, but **I chose you** and **appointed you** that you should go and **bear fruit** and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.*

1Cor 6:11 *And such were some of you. But **you were washed**, you were **sanctified**, you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

1Cor 15:10 *But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, **I worked harder** than any of them, **though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.***

Eph 2:10 *For we are his **workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which **God prepared beforehand**, that **we should walk in them.***

Phil 2:12-13 *Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**,* 13 *for it **is God who works in you**, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.*

1Thess 5:23-24 *Now may the **God** of peace himself **sanctify you completely**, and may your whole **spirit and soul and body be kept blameless** at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.* 24 *He who calls you is **faithful**; **he will surely do it**.*

Heb 13:20-21 *Now may the **God of peace** who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the **blood of the eternal covenant**,* 21 ***equip you with everything good that you may do his will**, **working in us that which is pleasing in his sight**, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

Jude 24-25 *Now to him who is **able to keep you from stumbling** and to **present you blameless** before the presence of his glory with great joy,* 25 *to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.*

Perseverance of the Saints

[4]

Mt 10:21-22 *Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death,* 22 *and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the* ***one who endures to the end will be saved.***

Mt 24:12-13 *And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.* 13 *But the* ***one who endures to the end will be saved.***

Lk 8:15 *As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word,* ***hold it fast*** *in an honest and good heart, and* ***bear fruit*** *with patience.*

Jn 15:5-6 *I am the vine; you are the branches.* ***Whoever abides in me*** *and I in him, he it is that* ***bears much fruit****, for apart from me you can do nothing.* 6 *If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.*

Jn 15:8-10 *By this my Father is glorified, that you* ***bear much fruit*** *and so prove to be my disciples.* 9 *As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.* 10 ***If you keep my commandments****, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.*

Acts 13:43 *And after the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.*

Acts 14:21-22 *When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch,* 22 *strengthening the souls of the disciples,* ***encouraging them to continue in the faith****, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.*

1Cor 15:58 *Therefore, my beloved brothers,* ***be steadfast****,* ***immovable****,* ***always abounding in the work of the Lord****, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

1Cor 16:13-14 *Be watchful,* ***stand firm in the faith****, act like men, be strong.* 14 *Let all that you do be done in love.*

2Cor 13:5 ***Examine yourselves****, to see whether you are in the faith.* ***Test yourselves****. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—****unless indeed you fail to meet the test!***

Gal 6:9 *And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season* ***we will reap, if we do not give up.***

Phil 2:12-13 *Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence,* ***work out your own salvation with fear and trembling****,* 13 *for it* ***is God who works in you****, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.*

Phil 3:12-14 *Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but* ***I press*** *on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.* 13 *Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and* ***straining forward to what lies ahead,*** 14 ***I press on*** *toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

Col 1:21-23 *And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,* 22 *he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,* 23 ***if indeed you continue in the faith,*** *stable and steadfast,* ***not shifting*** *from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.*

Heb 3:12-14 ***Take care****, brothers, lest there be in any of you an* ***evil, unbelieving heart****, leading you to fall away from the living God.* 13 *But* ***exhort one another*** *every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.* 14 *For we have come to share in Christ,* ***if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.***

Heb 10:23 *Let us* ***hold fast*** *the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.*

Heb 10:36-39 *For you have need of endurance, so that* ***when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.*** 37 *For, "Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay;* 38 *but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him."* 39 *But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of* ***those who have faith and preserve their souls.***

Heb 12:1-3 *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and* ***let us run with endurance the race that is set before us****,* 2 *looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.* 3 *Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*

Jas 1:12 *Blessed is the man who* ***remains steadfast*** *under trial, for* ***when he has stood the test*** *he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.*

2Pet 1:10-11 *Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to* ***confirm your calling and election,*** *for* ***if you practice these qualities you will never fall.*** 11 *For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

1Jn 2:3-6 *And by this we know that we have come to know him,* ***if we keep his commandments.*** 4 *Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,* 5 *but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:* 6 ***whoever says he abides in him*** *ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.*

1Jn 2:19 *They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us,* ***they would have continued*** *with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.*

1Jn 2:28 *And now, little children,* ***abide in him,*** *so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.*

How the Saints Persevere

[5]

Mt 7:24-27 *"Everyone then who* ***hears these words of mine and does them*** *will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.* 25 *And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.* 26 *And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.* 27 *And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."*

Lk 9:62 *Jesus said to him,* ***"No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."***

1Cor 9:24-27 *Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So* ***run that you may obtain it.*** 25 *Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.* 26 *So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air.* 27 *But* ***I discipline my body and keep it under control,*** *lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.*

Heb 2:1-4 *Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.* 2 *For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution,* 3 *how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard,* 4 *while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.*

Heb 10:26-31 *For* ***if we go on sinning deliberately*** *after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,* 27 *but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.* 28 *Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses.* 29 *How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the* ***one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God****, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?* 30 *For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people."* 31 *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

Heb 13:15-21 *Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that* ***acknowledge his name.*** 16 *Do not neglect to* ***do good*** *and to* ***share what you have****, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.* 17 *Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.* 18 *Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things.* 19 *I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner.* 20 *Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,* 21 ***equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us*** *that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

1Jn 5:18 *We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but* ***he who was born of God protects him,*** *and the evil one does not touch him.*

2Jn 9 1:9 *Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God.* ***Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.***

Rev 14:12 *Here is a call for the* ***endurance of the saints,*** *those who* ***keep the commandments of God*** *and* ***their faith in Jesus.***

This content is taken from this document

[1] I have used Preservation instead of Perseverance as the first title because of the doctrine teaches that God is the one who works in us and also that it does not destroy the TULIP acrostic. For the Perseverance of the Saints see "Perseverance of the Saints."

[2] James White, The Potter's Freedom (New Revised Edition 2009) p. 40

[3] "The Five Points of Calvinism: Defined, Defended, and Documented" Ed. 2, pp. 7-8.

[4] This section shows us that the believers are also active in their perseverance, but we've already seen that God is the one who preserves us. The verses are taken from "The Five Points of Calvinism: Defined, Defended, and Documented" Ed. 2, pp. 150-3.

[5] Taken from "The Five Points of Calvinism: Defined, Defended, and Documented" pp. 153-5. Not all Scripture from there are quoted.

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