Can a Born-again Believer lose their salvation

The bottom line:

Since man has free-will, God would have been unjust not to allow for someone who genuinely despises their salvation and no longer wants it, not to be able to rebuke it. Rebuking your salvation is very rare, it also has conditions to it and not all even qualify to do so, this is talked about later. And if you are reading this paper, you most-likely still have a desire for the things of God, thus you have not lost your salvation.

The one requirement for Salvation is that we confess, believe and freely receive:

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God has raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved, Romans 10:9.

Only two conditions apply: -

- 1. That you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus
- 2. and shall believe in the heart that God raised Jesus from the dead.

None of us deserve God's salvation, ²³ for we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God, ²⁴ Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Romans 3:23-24. Our sins, of how we have come short or even if we don't feel saved is not even taken into account.

Believers who bemoan that they have lost their salvation, whatever their reasoning might be and they wish it were back, I can guarantee you that they have not lost their salvation. The only way to loose one's salvation is to Rebuke it. God does not think as men do, and applying our carnal reasoning to Him can not and should not be done. For, God is merciful, and He will not forsake you, Deuteronomy 4:31 & Hebrews 13:5.

The issue of loosing your salvation can become an issue of life or death, (Kieth's story)

²⁵ In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; ²⁶ And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will, 1st Timothy 2:25-26.

This issue is not just an intellectual issue that gets debated around in seminaries, rather this can become a life or death issue for some people. This happened to a friend of mine, where he became truly convinced that he had lost his salvation, and after 4 to 5 years of believing and meditating on such a lie, the thought grew to to be such a stronghold in his mind that the torment of it finely killed him. Thus, the devil won a minor victory, because he was able to take out a son of God.

It all began after one weakened when most of the men at the small church that we both went to, all came down with flu like systems. (The devil attacks when you are weak and vulnerable), this was also the case for Kieth. During this time, Kieth had a dream or a night vision, and he tells me he saw a banner or billboard that read, "YOUR LOST." And even though Kieth, approximate 18 years ago, had experienced God's peace and had been assured that he was in now God's house, this vision was devastating to him.

Well the flu systems for everyone else only lasted a few days but Keith's recovery was gradual and in several steps. He asked and elected me to call and keep in touch with him, for we had become good friends and since Kieth no longer had any family in the area. As for Kieth's physical recovery it maybe took 2 weeks at the most, but sadly he never quite fully recovered emotionally and he carried this self-inflicted pain with him all the way up to his death.

After a few weeks of feeling weak, or as he told me not feeling quite right, he checked himself into a local hospital, They did the required scans, test and blood work, I believe all they found was a small infection and that his blood work showed his sodium level was a bit low, so he was sent home with an antibiotic. A few weeks

later he checked himself in again, this time as they checked him out they found nothing, and they asked him to only come back if he knew something was physically wrong.

During the first year, Kieth's car, over the night time hours acquired two flat tires while sitting in its parking space next to his house. Not too long after that his drivers license expired and he never renewed it. Therefore, I became his chief means of getting to the store for him to buy food. Even as I write this I can sense there was a mental imbalance and as the above scripture also points out, "those that oppose themselves." And if you are wondering, Yes, there had been a history of abuse and mental instability in Kieth's past.

During the first year it was fairly apparent that there was a darkness over and on Kieth, and with others praying for him from our church, this darkness was gone after the first year. However, the negative mindset had become ingrained not in Kieth's mind, it seemed, Kieth was now on an autopilot headed to destruction.

Through the next 3 or 4 years following, I would be there to take Kieth shopping, still thinking that I could somehow talk Kieth back into the assurance of his salvation. Over this time we went over nearly every doctoral argument in the book. I would commonly go over Romans 10:9 with him, and he would confess Jesus to be Lord and believe that God raise His only son from the dead, but none of this seemed to register.

The reason Keith felt he lost his salvation I found out was due to his last sexual affair, it was the forth and four was too much. When I asked him if he had stopped at two or three, would he be assured of his salvation. He replied to me, well it would sure make me feel better.

I am certain that I will see him again up in heaven, not just because of the conversations that we had and how he was convinced that God raised Jesus from the dead, Romans 10:9, but, also that every time we got together God was at the forefront of our conversation. Also, he would not have been in such mental torment if he was not deeply horrified by the thought of loosing this gift that he had earnestly once treasured. Knowing that he once had the gift of salvation and now thinking that he had now lost it. Thus, the reason why I am writing this paper, for my wish is that this would not happen to anyone else.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour: 1st Peter 5:8.

We do have an enemy in this world, who wishes to steal, kill and destroy, John 10:10. Therefore we need to remain mindful of the spiritual war that we are in, taking every thought captive to the ability of pulling down strongholds, 2nd Corinthians 10:4. We may not be able to always keep certain thoughts from coming to us and invading our mind, but we are certainly able to control the thoughts that we entertain and choose to speak. However, every believer needs to know that a thought that we do not meditate on and is left unspoken, will become ineffectual and fruitless, as it later fades away and dies. We must learn to control our minds, our thoughts and what we meditate on, for the battlefield truly is in our mind. This is critical to living a successful Christian life, I will address this more latter in the document.

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance, 2nd Peter 3:9.

Introduction:

You may feel that you are beyond hope, that you have blown it so bad that God has just plain given up on you. First, know that this feeling is actually one of false pride, thinking that you should be able within yourself to meet certain levels of righteousness apart from Christ, but know that all of us us have sinned, *and even at times continue to sin*, and have come short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23. We just need to face it, we in and of ourselves are not all that righteous and good, and that is exactly why we need a Savior, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast, Ephesians 2:8-9." For Christ did not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance, Luke 5:32.

This study addresses many of the concerns of loosing one's salvation with the hope to bring confidence and assurance to the person who might be having such doubts. Whereby this may seem like an issue that critically only affects a slight few, every believer needs to understand and settle these issues in their mind, inorder for God's peace to be able to dwell within them. For, if we remain ever mindful that if we trip up, we might lose our salvation and be destined for hell, it would make it impossible for us to ever achieve peace with God and ourself and enter into the the Lord's rest, Hebrews 4:1-11.

However, know that we are in a battle and the battlefield is primarily in our mind. Our mind controls what we think and believe and results in our actions, as scripture points out to us that as a man thinks in his heart, so *is* he: Proverbs 23:7. Our enemy, the devil and his dark spirits would love to plant a thought, a falsehood in your mind, and have you entertain that though as if it were your own, expressly to make you doubt your salvation.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*, Ephesians 6:12.

Therefore we should not be surprised when we get tested in this way, for scripture says;

Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: 1st Peter 4:12.

For, we do have an enemy in this world and he is out only to steal, kill and destroy, John 10:10.

Nether, should we feel as this is only happening to us, as if we are the only one the devil ever chooses to pick upon. Our enemy is not about to give up, I assure you he comes after all of us. If he cannot destroy us, he will kill our hopes and expectations that we have for our future, so as to keep Christians weak and powerless. This will be further addressed in the paper, for our mind truly is the battlefield. For, if the enemy can gain a stronghold within a persons mind, he then has control over that person in that one area.

God knew that at times we would need assurance of our salvation and He made provision for this, for one of the pieces of His armor is the helmet of salvation. And one of it's functions is to assure us of our salvation, Ephesians 6:17. Click here, to see a short and concise teaching of the armor of God.

Our salvation is not based on our works:

Whenever the concern of someone loosing their salvation is brought up, one's performance and feelings is always added into the equation, "well, I just don't feel saved." Know that it is not about us, it's all about Jesus. Our feelings often led us in the wrong direction and lie to us and they have nothing to do with with us being eligible or ineligible for God's salvation. My friend, as I mentioned above would intellectually agree with me that it was not about our performance, either bad or good. However, he would then tell me that he would feel as if it applied to him if he had not done certain things in the past.

We have to get over our bad self; I once saw a card saying this from one of my fellow Bible students. Truthfully, at the time I thought the card was totally inappropriate and perhaps even offensive. I now understand the meaning of the card much better. ²³ For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; ²⁴ Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Romans 3:23-24. The one thing that keeps us in this trap of "not feeling good enough to deserve the free gift," is actuality man's self-pride. Therefore, swallow your self-pride. Doing so will not only allow you to be more accessible to the blessing of God, but will also take away the self-burden that you put on yourself as, "always being right."

When we truly comprehend that Christ die for all men and that God wishes that no not one should perish. The question of if you can loose your salvation almost become a non-issue, realizing that Christ's sacrifice on

the cross was absolute and it was not conditionally based on our performance. Most believers will agree that Christ's finished work was unconditional for all men, only to later add a list of conditions that they must abide by to be true follows of Jesus Christ.

This concern of confirming your salvation or holiness by and through your works is not new, the Apostle Paul also wrote to the Galatians concerning this issue

¹ O foolish Galatians, who has bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ has been evidently set forth, crucified among you? ² This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³ Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? Galatians 4:1-3.

This scripture clearly addresses the issue: That we enter into salvation not by the keeping the law but rather by the hearing of faith and believing, and that is also how we must maintain our salvation. It is all about Jesus. It is not about our works, they are as filthy rags to God, Isaiah 64:6.

Apart from Christ none of us are righteous within ourselves in the sight of a Holy God. The saving grace for every man is that Jesus Christ paid the price, and without believing in His finished work on the cross not even the best of us would be saved.

The NT. covenant was not made with man, it was made for man.

The New Testament covenant that brought forth man's salvation was not made with man, it was made between the Godhead for man. Jesus, became our substitute, He made the covenant on mans behalf and man cannot undo what Jesus accomplished. Our only part in this is to believe in Christ, Romans 10:9, acknowledge all that He has done and and then receive His gift of salvation and the many blessings that He has provided for us. God has done His part, He is waiting on us to simply believe. God has made salvation available to all men and we know that God wishes that no one should perish, the ball is now in your court!

²⁸ And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of My hand. 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. ³⁰ I and My Father are one, John 10:28-30.

That the saying might be fulfilled, which He spake, Of them which thou gave Me have I lost none, John 18:9.

As long as we are living and breathing on this earth, every believer remains under this covenant. Every person, believer and unbeliever alike has equal access to the salvation that Christ has provided for us. In the scenario of believing you lost your salvation, simply repent, we will talk more of this later, and get back in the boat, ie. (rededicate your life to Christ *and choose life*, Deuteronomy 30:19).

Just two requirements for salvation, Romans 10:9.

That if thou shalt <u>confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus</u>, and shalt <u>believe in thine heart that God has raised Him from the dead</u>, thou shalt be saved, <u>Romans 10:9</u>.

- 1. That you confess that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and acknowledge Him as Lord.
- 2. And you believe that God raised His Son from the dead.

This does not address any of your deeds, actions or even what you believe your current self-worth to be. Rather it's only conditional on your belief on confessing Jesus as Lord and that God raised His Son from the dead. Just two requirements and neither one is contingent on you being, "good enough. Therefore, if you are a believer in the God, it should be no great leap of faith to believe that the all-powerful God of the universe raised His righteous Son, Jesus Christ from the dead.

It is easy for us to either forget events or start doubting that events ever took place. That is why it's a good idea to make a note of the date of your conversion, (*write it down in your Bible*). God even gave this principle to the Israelites, each tribe was told to pick up a stone from out of the middle of the Jordan river when they crossed over on dry ground. So that they and their children would have a reminder of the crossing of the Jordan river on dry land, Joshua 4:7.

Being born-again is a spiritual reality.

Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new, 2nd Corinthians 5:17.

We have become a new creature, old things have passed away, all have become new. We are as one versions say a new species. Much like the analogy of the butterfly coming forth out of his cocoon, almost as soon as the butterfly crawls out of that cocoon there is no going back into it. Then as the wings unfold and dry out and the body fills out, the butterfly realizes that a new life awaits him and he takes to the sky. Likewise when we as believers discover what awaits us in Christ, there will be no turning back to the old ways of this natural world.

When Jesus said to Nicodemus you must be born-again to see the kingdom of God, John 3:3. He used the word born-again to make the point, rather than saying something such as, (you must make a decision for God). Just as in a physical birth, once you are born you cannot become unborn, no one would even question this. I believe this same principle applies to our spiritual birth when we get born-again we cannot without our conscience agreement and an act of God become unborn-again. This is called becoming reprobate and I will address this latter in the document.

Most of us would like to receive a tangible confirmation on becoming born-again, this would be nice, ie. (*job well done, here is your certificate, etc.*). However, since the new-birth is spiritual rather than physical, our confirmation must come through our faith. Faith is the substance of things hope for, the evidence of things unseen, Hebrews 11:1. Thus, the bottom line is that we must believe by faith and the just must live by faith, Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, Hebrews 10:38.

The wonderful gift of repentance:

Some people may not like the world's definition of the word repentance. Thinking that it reminds them of doing a ugly deed, that they now need own up to. However, whereby worldly sorrow leads to death, Godly sorrow lead to life, and without this gift all of mankind would be hopelessly lost in their sins.

For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death, 2nd Corinthians 7:10.

Being able to repent is a good thing and I believe it is a gift to mankind from God, for without it man would not be able to achieve the salvation that Jesus Christ purchased with His blood for us. Biblical repentance is simply turning from the dark ways of this world, and turn towards God's kingdom and His righteous ways.

And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations,

beginning at Jerusalem, Luke 24:47.

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, <u>that your sins may be blotted out</u>, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord, <u>Acts 3:19</u>.

Now this may lead to the question of, do I need to repent more than once? If this were a perfect world, and not a fallen world that gives us tests and trials on a dally basics, and if we were all perfect people in our thoughts and actions, one time might very well do it. Whereby our spirit is perfect, until you can also say that about your flesh and your soul (mind, will and emotions), you had best use the tool of repentance, as often as is needed.

Repentance that brings forth remission of sins can be thought of as somewhat like a [reset button].

Using the tool of repentance that Jesus Christ has given us, should not be thought of as a shameful thing, for it allows us even when we come short, to still hold onto God's promise of our redemption.

The battlefield is in the mind:

God's system operates on faith, belief and hope, invisible attributes you might say, things which the this physical world puts little stock in. Therefore, our adversary, the devil out only to steal, kill and destroy, first and foremost comes against our thoughts and mind, that we would aid him in coming against or hindering ourself. See the devil has no real power over us unless we come into agreement with him.

In the situation of my friend, as I mentioned above, this battle was entirely within his mind. This lie that he believed became such a stronghold in his mind that he was unable or perhaps unwilling to break it and it succeeded in killing him.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*, Ephesians 6:12.

They who oppose themselves:

This addresses select scriptures that are often used to attempt to justify the lie of a person loosing their salvation. Whereby, these scriptures speak of "repentance," know that the word repentance simply implies, turning from one mindset, (usually a darkened mindset to an enlightened one). It does not always imply repentance unto salvation, as we see in these scriptures below.

In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will, 2nd Timothy 2:25-26.

This is then used to reason that God has not granted repentance to them. This is used as their personal excuse, rather than to put forth the effort needed to take back control of their mind and thoughts. This scripture refers to the battle that is currently going on in their mind and it starts out by saying, "instructing those that <u>oppose</u> themselves." The word "peradventure," is an archaic word that implies the users has doubts of a certain situation, in this case, that they might have the repentance, ie. (*to turn from the lie they are believing and to know the truth*), that God wishes all to come to repentance, 2nd Peter 3:9.

Another scripture often referred to is:

For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he

found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears, Hebrews 12:17.

This scripture is talking of how Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for a bowl of porridge, <u>Genesis 25:29</u>, and how Jacob then later was able to steal the blessing of the first-born, <u>Genesis 27:5</u>. This is not necessary talking of repentance unto salvation, rather, it's talking of how Esau was remorseful l for losing the tangible blessing of the first-born. And as we see in the account, once Isaac had spoken the blessing over Jacob he could not reverse it and bless Esau, even though Esau sought it carefully with tears.

Hebrews chapter six, is pointed at a lot:

These verses in Hebrews are usually pointed to by some of the more conscientious believers, questioning and condemning themselves if they have gone too far, wondering if they lost their salvation and if they can get it back.

¹ Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, ² Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ³ And this will we do, <u>if God permit.</u> ⁴ For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, ⁵ And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, ⁶ If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *Him* to an open shame, Hebrews 6:1-6.

Taking a closer view at the passage in Hebrews chapter 6. We see that the Apostle Paul wrote this passage to believers who were hypothetically going onto perfection, by leaving the first principles in Christ behind unto higher understanding, <u>if God permits</u>. One possibility may be, that if God does not grant us with higher understanding, verse 6 may not even be applicable. But lets look into it further;

This passage has a safeguard and conditions that must be meet before Hebrews 6:6 can even come into effect. As was stated above, God must be willing to bring the believer into a higher level of understanding of His Word and the mature believer must have seen and achieved these five conditions, abilities and gifts. I have written in parenthesis to attempt to expound on the scripture, as you can see the list of heavenly attributes are quite extensive.

- 1. Having been once enlightened, (having seen the light, perhaps a vision literally of Christ).
- 2. Having tasted of the heavenly gift; (*salvation*, *sozo* = *saved*, *delivered*, *healed*, *etc*).
- 3. Been made a partaker of the Holy Ghost; (walking in the Spirit, one in communion with Him).
- 4. Having tasted the good Word of God; (operating in signs, wonders and miracles).
- 5. And of powers of the world to come; (*dreams and visions of powerful wonders in the world to comes*).

I believe this would be equivalent to a believer achieving a piece of God's heavenly realm, seeing and tasting of His glory, experiencing the love, joy and peace of heaven and walking and operating in the power thereof, and then deciding that they preferred this darkened world that we live in better than God's heaven.

Most likely the Apostle Paul had met these conditions having been taken up to the third heaven and granted great revelation and understanding, 2nd Corinthians 12:2-4. However, most believers, while here on this earth never achieve this, also achieving these gifts and abilities is not solely up to the believer desiring them but is up to God to grant this. For, God has put safeguards into His plan for mankind, not to impede mankind, but rather to protect him. An example of another safeguard that we see in scripture is;

So He *{God}* drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life, Genesis 3:24.

After man fell, God drove him out of the garden and placed a guard on the tree of life, so that man would not eat of it and live forever in this sinful fallen state. Likewise God has also put a safeguard on this for man's own good.

Becoming reprobate:

God dose not dictate <u>if</u> or <u>when</u> a person <u>chooses</u> to become reprobate, <u>that is totally up to them!</u>
Becoming reprobate and renouncing one's salvation is different than what people tend to mean when they say they lose their salvation. For when we loose something, we are first aware that we are missing it and we generally want it back. In the case of becoming reprobate, the person willfully rebukes and discards their salvation, they don't want it back and they become incapable of ever desiring it back. Romans chapter 1 verses 21-28 gives an example of this, telling of 3 cycles of hardening one's heart to the knowledge of God, where you no longer even wish to retain any thought of God in your mind.

And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Romans 1:28.

When a person does become reprobate, even though that person had become a new creature in Christ, and was never meant to revert back to the old creature. God, respects man's freewill so much that He will allow that person to become as they wish, an old creature once again destined for destruction.

The person who is concerned about this issue and is seeking Christ for repentance, has not lost their salvation, nether have they become reprobate, rather they are letting the enemy the devil and his demons rule their mind and emotions.

Bible examples of a merciful God, giving us further hope:

Let's look at some situations in the Bible where certain people may have had reasons to feel that their salvation was also in jeopardy. However, our God is merciful, For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting; and his truth *endureth* to all generations, Psalm 100:5.

Moses a great leader, delivered the Israelites out of Egypt and then led the them through the wilderness. Moses, who spoke to God face to face, then at Meribah-Kadesh in the Wilderness of Zin, Moses (<u>struck the rock (twice)</u>, whereby God said to speak to the rock. Then God said to him, "Because ye believed Me not, to sanctify Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land I have given them, <u>Numbers 20:12</u>," and Moses died and was buried on mount Nebo, <u>Deuteronomy 32:49-51</u>.

Imagine, Moses who spoke face to face with God, being then told by God that he would now die in the wilderness, ie. ("you have gone too far Moses, you are done"). However, we see that Moses was involved at the <u>transfiguration of Jesus</u>, and will perhaps be one of the two witness in Revelation and will definitely be up in heaven. Even though Moses did such and God reproved him, he still carried out his destiny and retain his salvation.

King David, a great man and king over Israel for 40 years did many great things, too abundant to tell here, however, he took another man's wife and then planned that her husband would be killed in battle. When Nathan the prophet confronted David about this, he repented, however the consequence was that David lost the child born to him. This immoral action could have caused much concern to king David, both being reproved by a prophet and also having this known all through his kingdom. However, David went on after this serving God, he repented and wrote Psalm 51 and he was still known as a man after God's own heart. David did not loose his salvation, for we will see him up in heaven.

I have given just two examples, but I could go on, for we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23. Whereby the shortcomings and the mistakes of the men and woman of the bible are not commonly pointed out, we know that they were not perfect people. The only perfect person we crucified nearly 2,000 years ago. Apart from Christ, none of us are worthy of heaven, but God through His Son, Jesus Christ has made us worthy. Giving us mercy rather than judgment and allowing us to walk and access eternal life and His kingdom through faith.

Closing thoughts on our salvation

- If you are reading this paper, it shows that you have a desire for the things of God and that you have most-likely not lost your salvation
- If you still feel that you have lost your salvation, rather than intellectually debating the issue, get off your but and do something about it. God wishes that no not one should perish, 2nd Peter 3:9, (and that applies you too). As long as you are yet still living this life you have free-will, submit to God, resit the devil and he will fee from you, James 4:7, and choose life, Deuteronomy 30:19.
- The New Covenant was made between the Godhead, therefore man cannot break it, as long as we are living on this earth we are under the New Covenant and Jesus purchased salvation for all men.
- We should not judge salvation on the fruit or lack thereof in our life or in someone else's life. Salvation is a gift of God it is not of works least anyone should boast, Ephesians 2:9.
- Sanctification is not a requirement for salvation. All of us by our own means fall far short of self-righteousness, we are made righteous through believing in the righteousness of Christ Jesus, ie: But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you, Matthew 6:33.
- As in a physical birth once you are physically born you cannot be physically unborn. Likewise once you are spiritually born-again by God, you were never meant to become unborn-again. And the only way to be spiritually unborn is also only if God does it, this process is called becoming reprobate and is contingent not on your actions but rather on your hearts desire.
- Praise God, Our salvation is not contingent upon our own works, it is the gift of God. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: Ephesians 2:8.

