

NYT21 Can you lose your Salvation?

When I first wrote this it was written with all the usual arguments against the belief that once you are saved you cannot lose your salvation. Then God showed me how simple the argument was against this and so the chapter is considerably shorter as none of the standard arguments against this belief are now relevant.

Rev 20:15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Rev 3:5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

There is a book that lists all who have salvation. It is called the *Lamb's Book of Life*. If your name is not in it you do not get eternal life.

In Rev 3:2-3 the church was told to repent and obey Jesus. They were disobedient and were not repenting. The threat was that their name would be removed from the Book of Life. These people had their name written in this book so had salvation and eternal life but were in danger of losing it through disobedience.

What about election and predestination?

As it was shown in Rev 3:5 that you can lose your salvation through rebellion then it cannot be true that you are predestined to be saved. If that was the case you would not lose your salvation through disobedience. Election also depends on your decision as we cannot be elected if you do not want to follow Jesus.

Election and predestination are different. Election is a call to follow Jesus and be changed into His image, while predestination is the limitations God has given you to work within once you respond to His call. It is not being chosen to be saved.

Election.

G1588 *klektos* From G1586; *select; by implication favourite: - chosen, elect.*

G1589 *eklogē* From G1586; (divine) selection (abstractly or concretely): - chosen,

All usages in the New Testament except one are based on the above two meanings.

Election (in the Christian contest) just means being chosen by God to become one of His people. People are chosen who are willing to do what is required to be a follower of Jesus and who will respond to God's offer to follow and obey Jesus as their Lord. It is like choosing a group of workers. You only choose those who are willing to do the work.

It is not so much the choosing to be a Christian but the choosing by God of the people who He knows will respond and will allow themselves to be developed into the person He wants a follower of His to be like. It is no use God choosing people who do not want to follow Him and trying to mature them into what He wants His followers to be.

These elected are people God knows will accept Jesus and will obey God in all they do. He does not choose them to be saved as that would over ride their free will, but chooses them

because they desire to be saved and follow Him. God desires all to be saved but can only work with those who want to be saved and who will follow Him as Lord.

Predestination

G4309 proorizo From G4253 and G3724; to limit in advance, that is, (figuratively) predetermine: - determine before, ordain, predestinate.

All four usages of predestination are based on the above word. It refers to God determining the parameters within which we are to live and by this, limiting what we can do as a follower of His and thus have guidelines (God's Plans for you) to walk in as required by Mat 6:33. Outside these parameters we serve His enemy in some way. The limitations are not forced on us by God but are choices we accept as citizens of The Kingdom of God because they come from God, our ruler.

These parameters limit us to what is necessary for us to stay saved, just like any good parent limits what their children can do so they will not hurt themselves. It is not a controlling the person or a choosing the person to do something but a guiding the person in the way they should live to satisfy God. They have a choice not to obey which is why they can lose their salvation.

(Rom 8:29) God knew beforehand what people would do and determined that all who followed Jesus would be conformed to the Image of Jesus.

(Rom 8:30) Those whom He knew would respond He called and justified.

(Eph 1:5) He determined that those who would respond would be adopted as sons.

(Eph 1:11) We are called to the purpose of God that He has determined we are to fulfil if we are to be a follower of His.