

LESSON 06

Can You Lose Your Salvation?

2: Eternal Security

Executive Summary

A common and legitimate question: what about people who seem to have faith for a season and then walk away? Scripture's answer is sobering — those who permanently depart never truly belonged to Christ in the first place. True believers may stumble, but they do not permanently fall away, because their salvation rests on God's grip, not theirs.

Key Terms

Perseverance	God's preserving work by which true believers continue in faith, even through weakness, struggle, and correction.
Assurance	Settled confidence in God's saving work, grounded in His promises rather than the believer's changing feelings.
Apostasy	A decisive and enduring rejection of a faith once professed, revealing that the profession was not genuine.
Preservation	God's faithful work of keeping every true believer secure in Christ through to final salvation.

Key Verses

English Standard Version (ESV)

1 John 2:19

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.

John 10:28-29

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.

Jude 24

24 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,

Application Questions

1. What does 1 John 2:19 say about people who permanently leave the faith?

2. Can a true believer struggle or fail? What keeps that believer from being lost?

3. Which promise from this lesson helps you trust that God will keep you?

4. How would you encourage a Christian who has failed and wonders whether God has abandoned them?
