

How secure are we? Let us count the ways

handout

How Do I Love Thee? (Sonnet 43)

[Elizabeth Barrett Browning](#) - 1806-1861

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of being and ideal grace.
I love thee to the level of every day's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.
I love thee freely, as men strive for right.
I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.

We are now ready to do a comprehensive study of our eternal security.

When you start to study this subject, it soon becomes apparent that we are secure in every way possible (& impossible!).

For all time. By all three members of the Trinity. By the entire essence of God.

And so many other ways as well.

We will examine the following ways in which our salvation is eternally secure:

1. Across time
2. How our salvation was secured
3. The perfection of the death of Christ (complete, all-sufficient)
4. Where – the security of our position
5. Who accomplished our salvation and ensures security
6. What changes occurred that can never be undone
7. What guarantees our security
8. How our salvation is preserved
9. Who we are
10. What God freely and permanently gave us
11. Why God saved us
12. Who God is

#1: WHEN: Our salvation has been secured across all time.

Our salvation has been secure since **before the foundation of the earth:**

2 Tim 1:8-11

Eph 1:3-6

Rev 13:8

Accomplished **when Christ died on the cross and was raised:**

Rom 5:6-11

Rom 5:18

Rom 6:1-10

Heb 10:10

Applied **when we believed in Christ:**

Eph 1:13-14

Preserved **every day of our lives:**

Rom 5:1-2

Rom 8:38-39

Looking forward to **the day of redemption at the Rapture** (the day of Christ Jesus):

Eph 1:13-14

Eph 4:30

Rom 8:23-25

Phil 3:20-21

1 Thess 4:16-17

[Notice that these are promises from God to us.]

Throughout all of the ages to come – **forever:**

John 10:27-30

Eph 2:4-7

Heb 7:23-25

Heb 9:11-12

Heb 10:11-14

Bottom line: our salvation has been secure from all eternity past and is secure for all of eternity future.

#2: HOW: The way that we have been saved makes us secure. It cannot be reversed.

We have been saved by **the death and resurrection of Christ.**

By the blood of Christ: His death on the cross.

Eph 1:7-8

We have been redeemed – purchased by God and set free from the burden of our sins – because God has forgiven us of all our trespasses.

1 Peter 1:18-19

Col 1:19-20

We have been reconciled to God through the blood of Christ's cross.

Heb 7:23-27

Heb 9:23-27

Rom 5:6-11

1 Peter 2:24

By the resurrection of Christ.

John 11:25-26

Rom 4:22-25

We have been credited with the righteousness of God on the basis of believing in God who raised Jesus from the dead.

Rom 10:7-11

1 Peter 1:3

1 Cor 15:3-5

We have been saved by **God's grace**

The grace of God is God acting freely according to His nature as love. He gives blessings freely with no expectation of return. Nothing about the recipient causes God to give freely. The only motive is in the love of God. God also acts righteously, in view of the cross.

Grace, once bestowed, is not withdrawn. God knew all about our sins and failures beforehand. His action was independent of them.

Grace confers undeserved, unconditional blessing.

Eph 2:8-9

Salvation is a free gift from God. God expects nothing from us in return. It is not based on any works of man. It will not be withdrawn.

Titus 2:11-14

Note carefully that this is entirely the work of God. Bringing salvation. Instructing us. Christ gave Himself for us to redeem us and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession.

Rom 3:21-26

Justification – being declared righteous by God – is a free gift from God and it will never be withdrawn. It is undeserved. It was given with no conditions.

Titus 3:4-8

Rom 5:15-17

Eternal life is a free gift from God. It is undeserved. It is given with no conditions. It cannot be withdrawn.

Rom 6:23

John 10:27-30

We have been saved by hearing the gospel preached....

Eph 1:13-14

Rom 10:14-17

Notice that faith comes after hearing the gospel.

We have been saved through faith in the message of the gospel

To believe means to take God at His word.

To believe is to be convinced. To be fully assured. To rely on.

Faith in Christ is relying on the testimony of God's word concerning the death, burial and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ for us.

If a person hears the gospel message from God about His Son and is convinced that it is true, that person is saved.

Faith is not a condition that must be met in order to be saved. Faith is the means that God has established for giving the gift of salvation.

God enables us to believe the good news about His Son. God does not force us to believe. Nor does he choose who believes and who does not. Believing in Christ does not make us worthy of salvation. We are saved while ungodly.

Rom 4:3-8

Rom 3:21-26

Rom 4:20-25

We have been saved by God foreknowing us, predestining us, calling us, justifying us, and glorifying us.

Rom 8:28-30

Our salvation is God's work from start to finish. God's work is perfect. (see #3). We contribute nothing. No man shall boast. No created being had a hand in providing it to us. Our salvation therefore rests solely on the character of God.

#3: The perfection of the death of Christ (complete, all-sufficient)

Christ's death on the cross is the one perfect sacrifice for all time and for all of the sins of mankind.

Heb 7:23-28

Heb 9:24-28

Heb 10:8-14

Rom 8:3-4

1 Peter 3:18

John 1:29

Heb 2:9

Christ's death completely satisfied the claims of God's righteousness on behalf of the sinful human race.

1 John 4:10

Rom 3:23-25

Christ defeated the enemies of God at the cross.

Col 2:13-15

Heb 2:14-15

Christ reconciled the world to God at the cross.

Rom 5:10

2 Cor 5:18-19

Col 1:19-22

All sins forgiven by the blood of Christ

Eph 1:7

Col 1:13-14

Col 2:13

He accomplished eternal redemption

Heb 9:11-12

1 Tim 2:5-6

He made us complete

Col 2:9-10