

## Passages that appear to call eternal security into question

### Three Tests:

1. Is the passage clearly speaking to/about **believers in Christ**? Or unbelievers? Are they said to be one or more of the following:
  - a. Have believed in Christ as their Savior – His death for their sins, His burial, and His resurrection from the dead
  - b. Elected or chosen by God the Father
  - c. Justified: declared by God to be righteous in His eyes
  - d. Possessing eternal life
  - e. Indwelt by the Spirit
  
2. Is the passage talking about **eternal salvation**? or something else:
  - a. Practical sanctification rather than justification
  - b. Temporal deliverance
  - c. Rewards/loss of rewards
  - d. Discipline rather than loss of salvation
  - e. Pressing on in the Christian life versus turning aside

3. Does the passage state that **a believer can lose** any of the things that **God accomplished in saving them**? That the believer can or will:
- a. lose eternal life?
  - b. be under the wrath of God again?
  - c. lose his justification? Be condemned once again by God?
  - d. be taken out of Christ? Have the seal of the Spirit removed?
  - e. no longer be the son or daughter of God the Father ?
  - f. be brought from life back into death?
  - g. go to the Lake of Fire?

We will now examine a group of “warning” passages using these tests.

The passages:

Matthew 24:4-5. 11-13, 23-26

John 8:31-32, 51

Romans 11:20-22

Galatians 5:1-4

Hebrews 6:1-8

Hebrews 10: 26-39

Remember: check out the neighborhood. Context, context, context!