

The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

Enduring to the End

Matthew 24:11-13

Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.



What is lawlessness?

Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness (1 John 3:4).



Antinomianism

Anti – Nomos = Against Law = Lawlessness = Sin
Sin is lawlessness.

No one can be forgiven without satisfying the
Law of God.



The Nature of Saving Conversion



Two Extremes

One extreme teaches that no matter what you do, “Once saved, always saved.”

The other extreme is, “You can lose your salvation.”



Losing Your Salvation

For **it is impossible** for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, **if they fall away, to renew them again** to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame (Hebrews 6:46).



Impossible to Renew Them Again

For if we win willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries (Hebrews 10:26-27).



Awakened, But Not Converted

Hebrews 6:4-6

1. once enlightened
2. have tasted the heavenly gift
3. have become partakers of the Holy Spirit
4. have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come.



King Saul Tasted and Was Lost

... you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him (1 John 3:15).

They went out from us, but they were not of us; for it they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us” (1 John 2:19).



The Nature of Saving Conversion

Some quotes by Solomon Stoddard



Irresistible Grace

*When men know the excellence of God,
they cannot keep from choosing Him.



*The glory of God is such that it captivates the heart;
where it is seen it has a magnetic power;
it irresistibly conquers the will.



*There is no power in the will to resist holiness
when the glory of God is seen.



*The will always follows the last dictates
of the understanding.



*The understanding is the guide of the will;
the will always follows its direction.



The Perseverance of the Saints

They never forget what they have seen.

[And this makes them endure to the end.]



The Big IFs

IF we endure, we shall also reign with Him.

IF we deny Him, He also will deny us
(2 Timothy 2:12).



The Big IFs

For we have become partakers of Christ **if** we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end (Hebrews 3:14).



The Big IFs

. . . whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end (Hebrews 3:6).



The Big IFs

Now the just shall live by faith;
But if anyone draws back, my soul has no
pleasure in him (Hebrews 10:38).



The Big IFs

If we endure, we shall also reign with Him
(2 Timothy 2:12).



The Big IFs

. . . in due season we shall reap **if** we do not lose heart (Galatians 6:9).



Proverbs 24:16

“For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity.”



1 Peter 1:10

“Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall.”



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