

You Pick It: I'll Preach It

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

- Introduction:
1. Tonight's lesson will examine a medley of several questions that were turned in.
 2. It is our aim to answer them biblically and concisely, and to encourage you to open your Bible and see if my answers are correct.
 3. (Acts 17:11-12).

I. Question One: Can A Saved Person Fall From Grace?

- A. There is a tenant of Calvinism that states that once a person is saved, they can never be lost.
- B. Here's an example of what is meant by this doctrine:
 1. "We take the position that a Christian's sins do not damn his soul. The way a Christian lives, what he says, his character, his conduct, or his attitude toward other people have nothing whatever to do with the salvation of his soul...All the prayers a man may prayer, all the Bibles he may read, all the churches he may belong to, all the services he may attend, all the sermons he may practice, all the debts he may pay, all the ordinances he may observe, all the laws he may keep, all the benevolent acts he may perform will not make his soul one whit safer; and all the sins he may commit from idolatry to murder will not make his soul in any more danger...The way a man lives has nothing whatsoever to do with the salvation of his soul." (Do A Christian's Sins Damn His Soul?)
- C. While are many passages that teach contrary to the above statement, we'll examine two of them.
 1. (Galatians 5:4).
 2. (John 15:1-5).

II. Question Two: Are We Predestined, and if so, Why Try?

- A. Again, another tenant of Calvinism is the belief that a person, before they were ever born, was predestined to be saved or lost.
- B. "God from all eternity, did, by the most wise and holy counsel of His own will, freely, and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass...By the decree of God, for the manifestation of His glory, some men and angels are predestinated unto everlasting life; and others foreordained to everlasting death. These angels and men, thus predestinated, and foreordained, are particularly and unchangeably designed, and their number so certain and definite, that it cannot be either increased or diminished. [Those predestined were chosen] without any foresight of faith, or good works, or perseverance... (Westminster Confession).
- C. If such were the case, then the question of "why try," is indeed valid.
 1. It makes the great commission meaningless (Matthew 28:19-20).
 2. It makes the invitations meaningless (Revelation 22:17).
- D. However, the Bible does teach predestination, but not in the way it was described above.
 1. (Ephesians 1:4-5).
 2. We are predestined "In Him," to be saved, but it is our choice as to whether or not we want to be "in Him."