

Many people mistake this physical attraction for real love, and because of this homes are broken up and lives are wrecked. You can usually recognize it because it does not care about the other person or the effect it may have on other lives.

Lust is based upon the desire for personal gratification. Many times young people use this sensation of desire as an excuse to do things that in their hearts they know are wrong. They are willing to forget about the future in order to gratify the desires of the flesh. This kind of thing is constantly being glorified on the screen and on television. Many people can't tell the difference between this and true love in its beginning stages, but only Christian love has permanence.

IF YOU ARE SAVED, CAN YOU EVER BE LOST?

By Carl Johnson, Youth Editor

Last time we looked at the above question from the Bible's vantage point. We pulled out onto a lookout point and tried to catch the full Biblical sweep of scriptures dealing with the subject. Let's press a little farther into the subject and try to understand what eternal security people believe. This material is not given as a club for you to swing at the ones who believe once-in-grace-always-in-grace, but rather as a reinforcement to your own Biblical stability.

Remember Fred Fencesetter? You met him a few weeks ago. He points up another aspect of eternal security, and that is . . .

The Two Nature Theory

Eternal security people in this approach teach that Christ reigns along with the old man (Satan), and both natures struggle for dominance, neither being responsible to the other.

There is a suppressing of the old nature, a constant conflict such as we saw in Fred Fencesetter. The presence of Christ in the heart has merely acted as a wasp sting on Satan, slowing down his activity but not destroying sin.

Years ago, the saintly John Fletcher wrote, "People, it seems, may now be in Christ without being new creatures, without casting old things away. They may be God's children without God's image; and born of the Spirit without the fruit of the Spirit." In other words, sinning saints are acceptable according to this belief. It was true then, it is true now that people want to be Christian and still cherish sin. With this desire they soon build a suitable theology.

While the King James Version (the K.J.V.) says, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples," the E.S.V. (Eternal Security Version) says, "Whether or not you continue in my word, you are my disciples." The K.J.V. says, "If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death," the E.S.V. says, "Whether or not my word is kept, the once saved will never see death."

We need to look at the . . .

Iceberg of Apostasy. (Backsliding)

Dr. Olmstead says, "To say that backsliding is impossible in a true believer logically requires a denial of a Christian's freedom of choice and belief in a thoroughgoing theory of predestination. Then temptation on the part of a Christian becomes a mere make-believe, for God is 'holding us fast' and we could not yield in any case. This is contrary to common sense, to our human experience, and to the Word of God."

Along the believer's course there are numerous icebergs which are located to destroy faith and relationship. A knowledge of the waters and a steadfast faithfulness to avoid apostasy will see the believer

through. Go to I John 1:5-10. Three vast, dim, white, monstrous shapes rise out of the darkness to sink the believer. In verse 10 there is **unbelief**, in verse eight there is **pride and rebellion**, and in verse six, **hypocrisy**. I remind you that watchfulness and faithfulness and obedience will keep you from disaster.

Eternal life, then, is something we have when we have it. If we lose it we don't have it. That's pretty good logic, isn't it? Sonship, the condition of a saved person, is conditional. I John 5:12, "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

In the believer's life, after conversion, there must be a continuing faith and obedience. Dr. Daniel Steele carefully examined all references to faith in regard to final or eternal salvation as found in the New Testament. Without exception, the present tense is used, indicating the continuing faith. In other words, you don't believe once and for all, but "keep on believing on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved."

Eternal vs. Internal Security

In pointing out the possibility of being lost, one should never emphasize the probability of such an end. The passages which are proof-texted (used out of context) by eternal security followers are not thus out of our dominion. Scripture never becomes the exclusive property of any group or individual. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? . . . Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Romans 8:35, 37).

Try this. Intertwine the fingers of your left hand with the fingers of your right hand, first relaxed, then clinched. The left hand represents you, the right hand, God. By mutual willingness both hands are tightly clasped. Begin to pull, hard. Notice. The harder the pull, the tighter the grip, so long as the fingers of both hands retain their pressure. If one side relaxes, however, the connection breaks. God's side will not let go, nor will He bind man who willfully relaxes. God's side will not let go; man's side need not. Nothing that either earth or hell can do can break the union.

Knowing that all we need to do to lose eternal life is to forget God (Psalm 9:17; 50:22), we nevertheless live with the positive certainty that as we have submitted our wills to His will, we have set our face like flint to a life of victory.

Our security rests in our willingness to be faithful and obedient. We realize that the crown of life is given to those who endure.

Finally consider enrolling in the School of Assurance.

Led by the Headmaster

Romans 8:9-17

Lessons Retained

Hebrews 3:12-19

Cheating on Life

I John 2:1-6

Danger For Dropouts

Hebrews 6:1-8

Dropouts Return

Isaiah 55:1-9

Commencement Address

I Timothy 6:11-21

B.A.—Believer's Assurance

Romans 8:35-30

1000 ATTEND YOUTH RALLY

The annual Youth Rally was held at Marysville, May 19-21. Special music was provided by the music department of Bethany Bible College. The choir sang pieces

like "Soldiers of the Cross" and a medley on the theme of "He Lives" which concluded with part of the "Hallelujah Chorus". The Bethany Ladies' Trio and the Bethany Mixed Quartet also provided special music. Doug MacCallum acted as song leader.

Special speaker, Jimmie Lentz, brought many challenging messages to the youth about their place in the world, the second coming of Jesus Christ, and the need of everyone to be born again. Over fifty seekers obtained special definite help at the altar. A number of these seekers were people who found the Lord for the first time.

Saturday was Variety Day. Three workshops were held in the Marysville Church Saturday morning. 130 young people had to choose between workshops on counseling at the altar, integration into Wesleyan Youth, and leadership and organization in the local society. These workshops were led by Mrs. Joyce Moore and Mrs. Betty MacCallum, Bill Moore, and Lic. Wayne Briggs.

A Ken Anderson film "I Hear A New Song", portrayed ways that modern music tears away at all that is Christian in our lives. It showed in how many ways we are near to cultural collapse.

The afternoon recreation program was varied. The rain stopped long enough to permit a miniature golf tournament, a horseshoe tournament, and a softball game. Indoor sports of basketball and floor hockey were played at the Y in Fredericton. For those not so athletically inclined, a guided tour of the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly was held. Many also toured the Beaverbrook Art Gallery.

Over 1000 people attended the Sunday Services at the Marysville School Auditorium on Sunday. There were approximately 260 accommodated in private homes in the Fredericton area. The kindness and hospitality of the people in the Fredericton area is deeply appreciated. Over \$2,000 was received at the Rally.

Special appreciation goes to Ross MacCallum for his fine leadership in directing the Youth Rally from the platform and in co-ordinating all that was necessary behind the scenes to make the Rally a success.

The major highlight of the Youth Rally was the deep sense of God's presence in the meetings.

William Moore.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING JUNE 11

For the interests of the children's work at Beulah Camp. This offering helps to maintain the Children's Tabernacle and pay for needed supplies.

Let us give 100% co-operation. Send receipts to Ross MacCallum, 174 Coverdale Rd., Gunningsville, N. B.

YOUTH CAMPS

BEULAH—Senior Youth

Junior Boys

Junior Girls

YARMOUTH—Two camps

RIVERSIDE—Senior Youth

Watch your church bulletin for further details.

Advertising is to be sent to all churches.