

## THE SECURITY OF GOD'S SHEEP

### THE GOOD SHEPHERD - PART 6

John 10:27-31

**(Jn 10:27-31)**, “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: <sup>28</sup> And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> I and *my* Father are one. <sup>31</sup> Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.”



THERE ARE **TWO DISTINCT and DIFFERING VIEWS** when it comes to the *eternal security* of the believer.

- 1) **MANY FOLKS** who love the Lord Jesus with all their hearts **ESPOUSE A VIEW** that believers may choose to abandon their faith in Christ and thus forfeit their salvation. In the course of this message, we will examine some of the Scriptures they use to support their view.
- 2) **OTHER PEOPLE EMBRACE A VIEW** that when people are truly born again, they are **eternally secure**. They believe that although a saved person may backslide in sin, he will never forfeit his salvation. This view goes by **a variety of names**.

- C ETERNAL SECURITY**
- C ONCE SAVED, ALWAYS SAVED**
- C PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS**

(Although *perseverance of the saints* is a title that is commonly used to describe *eternal security*, it is not an accurate representation of the doctrine. The doctrine of *eternal security* does not place the emphasis upon man's ability to persevere in salvation, as much as it does upon God's ability to keep the believer. A more accurate title might be *the perseverance of the Lord*.)

**THIS MESSAGE IS** an attempt to explain *the eternal security of the believer* from a **biblical perspective**. **OUR GOAL IS** to examine the balance of Scripture as it addresses this subject. Our desire is to seek **God's perspective**. It is my strong conviction that when a person is truly saved, he is saved for all eternity.

- I. REASONS TO BELIEVE
- II. DIFFICULTIES REGARDING
- III. PEACE REGARDING

### I. REASONS TO BELIEVE THE DOCTRINE OF THE "SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER"

**S** As we examine the Scripture, we will consider **SEVEN REASONS** to believe in *the eternal security of the believer*. In a **nutshell** those seven reasons are:

- #1. GOD'S CHARACTER
- #2. GOD'S GIFT
- #3. GOD'S PROMISE
- #4. GOD'S POWER
- #5. GOD'S PRESENCE
- #6. GOD'S PRAYER
- #7. GOD'S GRACE

#### #1. GOD'S CHARACTER

**TWO TIMES** in JOHN 10 Jesus described Himself as “THE GOOD SHEPHERD”:

**(V. 11)**, “I am the **GOOD SHEPHERD**: . . .”

**(V. 14)**, “I am the **GOOD SHEPHERD**, . . .”

IN THOSE TWO VERSES JESUS REVEALED **TWO THINGS** ABOUT HIMSELF:

#### [#1]. HE IS THE "SHEPHERD"

**S** AN EARTHLY SHEPHERD'S **GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY** is to make sure his sheep **are provided for** and **are protected**. A shepherd must **provide** grass and water for his sheep. If he fails to do that, his sheep will get sick and die. If a **wolf** attacks his sheep, the shepherd must protect and defend them, or else his sheep will be destroyed. It is the **shepherd's responsibility** to make sure his sheep have **provision** and **protection**.

**S** Spiritually speaking, we are the “SHEEP” AND GOD IS OUR SHEPHERD.

(Ps 23:1), “THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; . . .”

AS EARTHLY SHEPHERDS assume responsibility for taking care of their sheep, SO OUR HEAVENLY SHEPHERD has assumed responsibility for taking care of us, His spiritual sheep. He has promised to do so. Consider three of God’s promises to provide for and to protect His sheep. Watch for the little word “all.”

**C** (Ro 8:32), “He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?”

**C** (Mt 6:33), “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

**C** (Php 4:19), “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

Would we not all agree that on our list of needs, our greatest need of all is that of salvation? Doesn’t it seem a little strange that God would provide for our salvation, and yet exclude our need for its successful conclusion? Wouldn’t it be strange that God would provide for the front end of our salvation and yet not help us finish it? God has promised to help us finish it.

(Php 1:6), “Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

[#1]. HE IS THE “SHEPHERD”

## [#2]. JESUS IS THE “GOOD” SHEPHERD

**S** The word translated “GOOD” means “intrinsicly good.” Jesus was intrinsicly good. The Heavenly Father never had to say to Jesus, “Now, Son, You be good”, because *goodness* was the very nature of Jesus’ character. When Jesus was *good*, He

was simply being who He was. Jesus was *good* because He was *good*. Jesus didn’t have to step out of character to be *good*.

**S** We can draw certain conclusions from the fact that Jesus is good. One thing it means is that **HE IS “FOR US” RATHER THAN AGAINST US.** We know the difference between when someone **is for us** and when someone **is against us**. You know when someone wants you to succeed. When a person is *for you*, your success brings them joy. When they are “against you,” they plot your demise.

David had a son whose name was **ABSALOM**. Absalom stood in the city gate greeting the people portraying himself to be an awfully nice guy. Because we have read the text, we know that his motives were diabolical. He gained the loyalty of the people so that he might turn their hearts from his father, the king. Absalom worked *against* his father, rather than *for* him.

**S** Jesus is not like Absalom. Jesus isn’t a thief that comes to steal, to kill, and to destroy. **JESUS IS GOOD!** Jesus works for us rather than against us. He **provides** *life* for his sheep. He **protects** his sheep from “thieves” and “wolves”. Jesus is good! **JESUS IS SO GOOD** that He even seeks the *good* of His enemies.

**C** FROM THE **CROSS** Jesus prayed:  
“Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Lk 23:34).

**C** (Eze 33:11), “. . . As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: . . .”

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**ONE REASON** to believe in the *eternal security* of the believer is based on the **character of God**. GOD is **GOOD**. Jesus is our **GOOD SHEPHERD**. Good shepherds **protect** and **provide** for their sheep. God works *for us*, rather than *against us*. If God be for us, who can be against us?

#1. GOD'S CHARACTER - "GOOD"

#2. GOD'S GIFT

**(V. 28)**, "And I **GIVE** unto them **ETERNAL LIFE**; . . ."

**S** The Greek word translated as "**GIVE**" can literally mean "**to bestow a gift.**" The Greek verb tense for "**GIVE**" is *present, indicative, active.*

**C** The *present tense* is a simple statement of fact as occurring in actual time.

**C** The *active voice* indicates the subject as the doer of the action.

**C** The *indicative mood* is also a simple statement of fact. If an action **really occurs**, or **has occurred**, or **will occur**, it is rendered in the indicative mood.

**S** **THE FACT IS THAT JESUS "GIVES" A "GIFT" to His sheep.** Jesus' gift to His sheep is called "**ETERNAL LIFE.**"

**(V. 28)**, "And I **GIVE** unto them **ETERNAL LIFE**; . . ."

**S** **THE ADJECTIVE** used most often in the Bible to describe the *life* that Jesus gives is "**EVERLASTING**" ("eternal"). The word *everlasting* is used **45 times** in the New Testament to qualify *life*. Consider five examples:

(1) **(John 3:16)**, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have **EVERLASTING LIFE.**"

(2) **(John 3:36)**, "He that believeth on the Son hath **EVERLASTING LIFE**: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

(3) **(Jn 5:24)**, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath **EVERLASTING LIFE**, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto LIFE."

(4) **(John 6:47)**, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath **EVERLASTING LIFE.**"

(5) **(John 10:28)**, "And I give unto them **ETERNAL LIFE**; and **THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH**, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand."

**S** **God's "GIFT" to those who receive His Son is "EVERLASTING LIFE."** "**EVERLASTING LIFE**" IS LIFE THAT NEVER ENDS. It is life that goes **on**, and **on**, and **on**. The word "everlasting" is used to describe things other than *life*. "Everlasting" is used to describe:

(1) **THE DURATION OF GOD'S EXISTENCE:**

**(Ro 16:26)**, "But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of **the everlasting God**, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:"

(2) **THE DURATION OF CHRIST'S GLORY:**

**(2 Ti 2:10)**, "Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with **eternal glory.**"

(3) **THE DURATION OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM:**

**(2 Pe 1:11)**, "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into **the everlasting kingdom** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

(4) **THE DURATION OF THE PUNISHMENT OF THE WICKED:**

**(Mt 25:46)**, "And these shall go away into **everlasting punishment**: but the righteous into **life eternal.**"

**S** **THE WORD "EVERLASTING"** is also used to describe the length of a person's salvation. Jesus said, "And I **GIVE** unto them **ETERNAL LIFE**; . . ." (V. 28).

**S** **QUESTION** – if God gives to a person *everlasting life* and then takes it away four years later because of sin, did God give that person *everlasting life*? Rather than having given *everlasting life*, would it not be true that He would have only given *four year life*. God gift is clear! God gives *eternal life* to those who believe in Jesus.

**REASONS** to believe in “the security of the believer” are:

#1. **GOD’S CHARACTER - “GOOD”**

#2. **GOD’S GIFT - “ETERNAL LIFE”**

### #3. GOD’S PROMISE

**(V. 28)**, “And I give unto them eternal life; AND **THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH, . . .**”

**S** **TWO WORDS** NEED TO BE HIGHLIGHTED FROM THAT TEXT:

#### [#1]. “NEVER”

**S** **HOW LONG IS “NEVER?”** Never means **never!** “NEVER” simply communicates the idea of eternity by stating it **negatively**.

**S** The Greek sentence actually uses what is known as **an emphatic double negative** (Robertson’s Word Pictures). It is called thus because the negative is actually stated twice in the Greek (αὐ : ο [ou m’]). It is a powerful way to communicate the negative with **intensity**. It can actually be understood as meaning **“never, never”**

**S** **JESUS REVEALED WHAT IT WAS** that would **never never** happen to His sheep. Jesus states emphatically:

#### [#2]. “NEVER PERISH”

**(V. 28)**, “And I give unto them eternal life; AND **THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH, . . .**”

**S** The Greek word for **“PERISH”** is **“APOLLUMI”** (*ap-ol’-loo-mee*). It occurs **92 times** in the New Testament and is translated a variety of ways:

Ⓒ **“perish”** 33 times

Ⓒ **“destroy”** 26 times

Ⓒ **“lose”** 22 times

Ⓒ **“be lost”** five times

Ⓒ **“lost”** four times

**S** **CONSIDER THREE EXAMPLES** where Jesus used this Greek word in places other than in our text. All three times the same Greek word is translated as **“DESTROYED”** in the KJV.

(1) Jesus used it to describe what God did to the population of the world during **NOAH’S DAY**.

Ⓒ **(Lk 17:27)**, “They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and **DESTROYED** them all.”

(2) Jesus used it to describe what God did to **SODOM AND GOMORRAH** in Abraham’s day.

Ⓒ **(Lk 17:29)**, “But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and **DESTROYED** them all.”

(3) Jesus used to describe what God will do to **THOSE WHO DIE** without Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

Ⓒ **(Mt 10:28)**, “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to **DESTROY** both soul and body in hell (“gehenna”).”

**S** Jesus used this Greek word to describe **WHAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN TO HIS SHEEP**. Jesus gives the clear and undeniable promise to His sheep.

**(V. 28)**, “And I give unto them eternal life; and **THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH** (“apollumi”) . . .”

It stands to reason that if Jesus said “never”, that Jesus meant “never”. Jesus even doubled the negative in order to emphasize the

fact. God's sheep will **NEVER NEVER PERISH**. In other words, His sheep will never lose their salvation and perish in hell.

## S THE PSALMIST

C (**Ps 37:28**), "For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are **preserved for ever**: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off." (1 Pe 1:3-4),

C (**1 Pe 1:3-4**), "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, **RESERVED IN HEAVEN FOR YOU,**"

S Three times Scripture states that God cannot lie. **GOD IS THE PROMISE KEEPER**. If God states that His sheep never perish, then it is clear that His sheep never perish. (John 14:6; John 1:14).

S **BARNES** understands this verse to mean:  
"They shall not be destroyed forever."

S **J. VERNON MCGEE**  
"If He starts with 100, He will not end with 99."

**REASONS** to believe in "the security of the believer" are:

- #1. **GOD'S CHARACTER - "GOOD"**
- #2. **GOD'S GIFT - "ETERNAL LIFE"**
- #3. **GOD'S PROMISE - "NEVER PERISH"**

## #4. GOD'S POWER

JESUS TWICE USED THE WORD "**PLUCK**"

(**V. 28-29**), "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, **neither shall any man PLUCK THEM OUT** of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and **no man is able to PLUCK THEM OUT** of my Father's hand."

S THE WORD "**PLUCK**" takes us back to the imagery presented by Jesus in the earlier part of John 10. The sheep in Jesus' day were sometimes kept overnight in a **sheepfold**, or **pen**. The **walls** of the sheep pen were often made of **rocks** that stood **high enough** to keep the sheep from jumping over them.

S A "**GATEKEEPER**" ("porter") was responsible for watching the sheep pen at night. He often slept in the "gate" in order **to keep** the sheep in the pen. On occasion "**THIEVES**" would sneak over the fence at night and pluck up a sheep and steal it from the shepherd.

S Jesus continues the idea of the **sheep pen**, but He changes the picture. The sheep pen that Jesus keeps His spiritual sheep in is **not made with rocks**. God's sheep pen is **GOD'S HAND**. The word "hand" is used twice.

(**V. 28-29**), "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of **MY HAND**. <sup>29</sup> My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of **MY FATHER'S HAND**."

S Earthly sheep pens can be penetrated regardless of how fortified they might be. It is a different story when it comes to God's sheep pen. The sheep pen of God's hand **cannot be breached** by any enemy, it matters not how powerful they might be.

(**V. 29**), " My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and **NO MAN IS ABLE** to pluck them out of my Father's hand."

S GOD "**KEEPS**" His sheep in His "hand." The "hand" of God is wonderfully safe place to be. **God's promise** is to protect and keep His sheep. Listen for the words "keep" and "kept."

C (**1 Pe 1:5**), "Who **ARE KEPT** by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

C (**2 Ti 1:12**), ". . . I know whom I have believed, and **am persuaded** that he is **ABLE TO KEEP** that which I have committed unto him against that day."

C **(Jude 1:24)**, “Now unto him that is **ABLE TO KEEP YOU FROM FALLING**, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,”

S The security of the sheep **does not rest** upon the strength of the sheep. The security of God’s sheep rests upon God. It is **GOD THAT DOES THE “KEEPING!”** It is the Good Shepherd who **defends** and **protects** His flock.

S **HOW SAFE ARE WE IN GOD’S HAND? HOW SECURE** is the hand of God?

C **(Ro 8:38-39)**, “For I am persuaded, that **neither** death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, **39 Nor** height, nor depth, nor any other creature, **shall be able** to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

C **(Jn 6:39)**, “And this is the Father’s will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me **I should lose nothing**, but should raise it up again at the last day.”

S WE ARE **“KEPT”** IN GOD’S HAND! (illustrations)

(1) **TWO BOYS** were talking about how safe they were in God’s care. One boy told his friend that when a person is saved, he reaches up and takes the hand of God. He explained what a really safe place that was to be. The other boy told His friend that he saw it differently. He stated we do not reach up and take the hand of God when we are saved. What happens instead is that God reaches down and places us in His hand. He told him that God’s hand was the safest place to be.

(2) **PICTURE FOUR BOXES ONE INSIDE THE OTHER.** The outer box has the name “God” written on it. The next inside box has the name “Jesus” written on it. The box inside that box has your name as a Christian written on it. Inside that box is another box with the name of “Jesus” written on it. Those four boxes, one inside the other portray the following reality: Jesus is in God, we are in Christ, Christ is in us. You talk about security. The only

way for the enemy to get at us is for the enemy to first pass through God.

**REASONS TO BELIEVE IN “THE SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER” ARE:**

- #1. **GOD’S CHARACTER - “GOOD”**
- #2. **GOD’S GIFT - “ETERNAL LIFE”**
- #3. **GOD’S PROMISE - “NEVER PERISH”**
- #4. **GOD’S POWER - “NO MAN IS ABLE TO PLUCK THEM”**

## #5. GOD’S PRESENCE

**(Heb 13:5)**, “. . . He hath said, I will **never** leave thee, nor forsake thee.”

**(Php 1:6)**, “Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:”

**(Is 43:2)**, “When thou passest through the waters, **I WILL BE WITH THEE**; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”

S When a person receives Jesus as Savior, the Holy Spirit **TAKES UP RESIDENCE** in his or her life. He literally lives in us (John 14:17; 1 Cor 6:19).

S One of the greatest **assurances** of salvation is the Holy Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are the children of God (Rom 8:16). The Holy Spirit in our life **CONFIRMS OUR SALVATION.**

S Not only does the Holy Spirit assure us of salvation, He also **GUARANTEES** our salvation. God’s promise is clear.

C **(2 Co 1:22)**, “Who hath also **SEALED US**, and given the **EARNEST** of the Spirit in our hearts.” (The down payment)

C **(2 Co 5:5)**, “Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us **THE EARNEST** of the Spirit.”

C **(Eph 1:14)**, “Which is **THE EARNEST** of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”

THE WORD FOR “**SEALED**” MEANS “**to validate the document.**” When something is sealed, it authenticates the contents of the letter. God has sealed our salvation.

THE WORD FOR “**EARNEST**” MEANS “**partial payment.**” It is common when a person wants to buy property that they put down earnest money as **a guarantee** for the purchase.

S THE HOLY SPIRIT in our lives is God’s **GUARANTEE FOR OUR SALVATION.** The Holy Spirit is God’s authentication that our salvation has been “**SEALED.**” The Holy Spirit is God’s authentication that the “**DOWN PAYMENT**” has been made.

**REASONS** to believe in “the security of the believer” are:

- #1. **GOD’S CHARACTER - “GOOD”**
- #2. **GOD’S GIFT - “ETERNAL LIFE”**
- #3. **GOD’S PROMISE - “NEVER PERISH”**
- #4. **GOD’S POWER - “NO MAN IS ABLE TO PLUCK THEM”**
- #5. **GOD’S PRESENCE - “THE HOLY SPIRIT”**

## #6. GOD’S PRAYER

S The Scripture makes clear that when we pray in the will of God, that God hears and answers our prayer.

**(1 Jn 5:14-15)**, “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, **he heareth us:** <sup>15</sup> And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, **we know that we have the petitions** that we desired of him.

S **QUESTION** – “Do you believe that when Jesus prayed, that He prayed in the will of the Father?” “Do you believe the Father answers the prayers of the Son, the Lord Jesus?” Of course our answer is, “Yes.” Listen to Jesus as He prayed to the Father regarding His sheep. He not only prayed for His disciples two

thousand years ago, He prayed for His sheep even today. Jesus prayed this prayer while on the way to the Garden of Gethsemane only hours before His crucifixion.

C **(Jn 17:11)**, “And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, **KEEP** through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.”

C **(Jn 17:20)**, “Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;”

S JESUS’ PRAYER IS EFFECTIVE

C **(Heb 7:25)**, “Wherefore he **is able also to save them to the uttermost** that come unto God by him, seeing **HE EVER LIVETH TO MAKE INTERCESSION** for them.”

C How much is “**the uttermost?**” “Uttermost” means “**completely,**” “**perfectly,**” or “**utterly.**”

C Jesus doesn’t save His sheep part way. He saves them to the uttermost.

S JESUS’ PRAYER FOR **PETER** WAS EFFECTIVE:

C **(Lk 22:31-32)**, “And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: <sup>32</sup> But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.”

**REASONS** to believe in “the security of the believer” are:

- #1. **GOD’S CHARACTER - “GOOD”**
- #2. **GOD’S GIFT - “ETERNAL LIFE”**
- #3. **GOD’S PROMISE - “NEVER PERISH”**
- #4. **GOD’S POWER - “NO MAN IS ABLE TO PLUCK THEM”**
- #5. **GOD’S PRESENCE - “THE HOLY SPIRIT”**
- #6. **GOD’S PRAYER - “KEEP”**

## #7. GOD'S GRACE

**(Eph 2:8-9)**, “For by **GRACE** are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: <sup>9</sup> Not of works, lest any man should boast.”

**S GRACE IS** God's *unmerited favor*. **GRACE IS** God's *Riches at Christ's Expense*. **SALVATION IS BY GRACE!**

**S** With God's grace in mind, the issue of *eternal security* **boils down** to one question, “Is salvation by *works* – or is salvation by *grace*?” **IF** salvation is by **WORKS**, then it can be lost. **BUT IF** salvation is by **GRACE**, then the matter is in God's hand.

**C (Eph 2:8-9)**, “For by **GRACE** are ye saved through faith; and **that not of yourselves**: it is the gift of God: <sup>9</sup> **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.”

**S** The Scripture makes abundantly clear that **SALVATION IS BY GRACE**, and not by works. Apart from God's grace, there would be no salvation. **A WONDERFUL VERSE ABOUT “GRACE”**

**C (Ro 5:20)**, “Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But **where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:**”

**C** For the sake of illustration, **PICTURE A BALANCE SCALE**. One side of the scale is placed *ten pounds* of sin. But because God's grace super abounds, on the other side of the scale is *one hundred pounds* of grace. The amazing truth of Scripture is that God's grace is always greater than one's need. One's sin may weigh *one thousand pounds*, but God's grace weighs *ten thousand pounds*.

**S GREAT LIBERTY** comes to the believer when he realizes that **God's grace is greater** than his sin.

## **S JOHN PIPER**

“Satan's ultimate weapon against us is our own sin. If the death of Jesus takes it away, the chief weapon the devil has is taken out of his hand. In that sense ‘he is rendered powerless’” (*Future Grace*, p 355)

**S SOME CHRISTIAN MIGHT ASK — “BUT WHAT IF I SIN?”**  
Perhaps the better question is, “**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I SIN?**”  
By God's grace you have **AN ADVOCATE** with the Father, i.e., **A DEFENSE LAWYER**.

**C (1 Jn 1:9)**, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**C (1 John 2:1)**, “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have **AN ADVOCATE** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:”

**C (2 Co 9:8)**, “And God *is* able to make **ALL GRACE** abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work:”

**S + AMAZING GRACE**