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Perseverance of the Saints

Selected Scriptures

I. Perseverance Defined as a Doctrine of the Christian Faith

- A. Perseverance is _____ a work of God in you and not a treadmill you run on (Matt. 24:13; Phil. 1:6; 1 Jn. 2:19; Matt. 15:8; 7:21-23)
- B. The whole purpose of God's _____ is to bring His people safely to heaven (Eph. 1:4-5, 11; Rom. 9:5-13; Jn. 1:12-13)

II. Perseverance Discussed Further to Clear Up Misunderstandings

- A. Perseverance is not _____ on you but on God (Phil. 2:12-13; 1 Jn. 5:11-13; Col. 2:13; Eph. 2:8-9; 2 Cor. 13:5)
- B. Perseverance is not easy believe-ism but it is _____ salvation (Titus 2:11-14; Jms. 2:14, 26; Jn. 15:5; Eph. 2:10)
- C. Perseverance does not prevent suffering but brings you _____ suffering (1 Pet. 5:10; 2 Cor. 4:8-10; Rom. 8:35-39)

III. Perseverance Displayed in the Gospel of John

- A. Whoever believes in Jesus will not _____ but will have eternal life (Jn. 3:16, 36)
- B. Whoever _____ of the living water will never thirst again (Jn. 4:13-14; 7:38)
- C. Whoever believes in Jesus has _____ from death to life (Jn. 5:24)
- D. Whoever _____ the bread of life will never hunger again (Jn. 6:35, 40, 51, 58)
- E. Whoever _____ Christ and keeps His Word will never die (Jn. 8:12, 52; 10:27-30)

- F. Whoever believes in Jesus has a _____ prepared for them (Jn. 14:1-3)
- G. Whoever loves Christ and abides in Him will not _____ away (Jn. 16:1; 17:11-12)

IV. Perseverance Demonstrated in Helpful Ways in Counseling

- A. Helping a counselee persevere through their feelings of _____ (Phil. 4:8; Col. 3:1-4; Psa. 62)
- B. Helping a _____ persevere when it faces hard times (Eph. 5:22-33; 1 Pet. 3:1-7; Col. 3:18-19; Jms. 4:1-2; Eph. 4:25-32)
- C. Helping a _____ persevere when the toddlers or teenagers are rebelling (Eph. 6:1-4; Heb. 12:5-11; Deut. 6:4-9)
- D. Helping a counselee persevere when they are facing _____ and anxieties (Josh. 1:9; Psa. 27:1; Isa. 41:10; Matt. 6:25-34; Phil. 4:6-9)
- E. Helping a counselee persevere when facing _____ temptation (Job 31:1; Psa. 119:9-11; 2 Tim. 2:22; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Rom. 6)
- F. Helping a young person persevere in their _____ when doubts arise (Eph. 1:4-5, 11; Jn. 6:58; 10:27; 17:12; Phil. 1:6; Rom. 8:35-39)
- G. Helping a counselee persevere in being a Christian _____ at work (Rom. 1:16; 1 Pet. 3:15; Matt. 28:18-19; Acts 1:8)
- H. Helping a counselee persevere in the challenges of _____ illness (Psa. 34:18; 16:11; 103:8; Rom. 8:28-29; Rom. 5:1-5)
- I. Helping a counselee persevere in _____ when struggling with anger (Eph. 4:25-32; Jms. 1:19-20; Psa. 103:8-10)
- J. Helping a counselee persevere in _____ laziness and to be diligent in all areas of their life (Matt. 22:36-40; 2 Thes. 3:10; Prov. 13:4; 19:4; 20:4; 22:13; 24:30-34; 26:12)

TAKE HOME

- Have you _____ the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints correctly?
- How can _____ up this doctrine help you in your sanctification?
- How can you _____ to this doctrine to encourage others?

STUDY QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a small group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please visit our website at placertachurch.com.

1. What is the definition of the perseverance of the saints? Have you thought of it in the past as more of an emphasis on you and your works, or God and His work? (Matt. 24:13; Phil. 1:6; 1 Jn. 2:19; Matt. 15:8; 7:21-23)

2. How does the doctrine of election work together with the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints? (Eph. 1:4-5, 11; Rom. 9:5-13; Jn. 1:12-13)

3. If perseverance is more dependent on God than on you, how do you explain and apply the following verses? (Eph. 1:4-5, 11; Rom. 9:5-13; Jn. 1:12-13)

4. Have you ever been confused by easy believe-ism? How did this get sorted out for you? What verses remind us that true faith works? (Titus 2:11-14; Jms. 2:14, 26; Jn. 15:5; Eph. 2:10)

5. What do you think about the truth that perseverance doesn’t remove the trials of life, but brings you through them? How does this practically apply? (1 Pet. 5:10; 2 Cor. 4:8-10; Rom. 8:35-39)

6. What is your favorite passage from all those mentioned from the Gospel of John? How would you walk through these passages with someone who is struggling with assurance of their salvation? (Jn. 3:16, 36; 4:13-14; 7:38; 5:24; 6:35, 40, 51, 58; 8:12, 52; 10:27-30; 14:1-3; 16:1; 17:11-12)

7. Why is it important to help someone show their understanding of the perseverance of the saints? How does this apply in the practical realm as was mentioned in these ten examples? Would you be willing to have God use you to encourage others in these ways?

8. Read the take home questions. Which one encouraged you or challenged you the most? Why? How will you live your life differently this week based on what you have learned from these passages?

“The doctrine of the perseverance of the saints is to the effect that they whom God has regenerated and effectually called to a state of grace, can neither totally nor finally fall away from that state, but shall certainly persevere therein to the end and be eternally saved.”