



## Secure, Steadfast, and Stable!

May 28, 2023 – Col. 1:23

Pastor Jon Pickens

### Is the Christian Eternally Secure in their Faith?

1. The New Testament **clearly** teaches the security of the believer.
2. The problematic text in Hebrews is **isolated** and **complex**.
3. A belief that you can lose your salvation has a whole set of **philosophical** hurdles.

### How Do You Reconcile Eternal Security with Experience?

1. Continuing in the faith is more of a **proof** of faith than a **condition** of faith.
2. We need to be careful to interpret the doctrine of eternal security in light of the doctrine of the **perseverance** of the saints.

### What Are the Key Characteristics of Perseverance?

1. Stable - A strong **foundation**
2. Steadfast - An **unwavering** hope in Christ

## Discussion Questions:

1. What questions do you have or observations you made about pastor's teaching relative to eternal security?
2. How have Christians misused the doctrine of eternal security? Why do you think we do that?
3. How is the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints different from the doctrine of eternal security? How do they work together?
4. What does it mean to persevere (or continue) in your faith according to Colossians 1:23?
5. How would you encourage someone to be stable and steadfast in their faith?
6. What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?

## Next Steps:

1. If you would like to become a follower of Jesus, please let us know. Pastor Jon will be in the room behind the Welcome Center after the service.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at [pj@fbclowell.org](mailto:pj@fbclowell.org).
3. Consider joining an elective. They meet most Sundays at 11am.
4. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

<b>May 2023</b> (Two Year Reading Plan, Month 17)				
<b>Week 1</b> <b>Starting May 1</b>	<b>Week 2</b> <b>Starting May 8</b>	<b>Week 3</b> <b>Starting May 15</b>	<b>Week 4</b> <b>Starting May 22</b>	<b>Week 3</b> <b>Starting May 15</b>
Day 1: 2 Chronicles 33	Day 1: Ezra 6-7	Day 1: Nehemiah 5-6	Day 1: Esther 1-2	Day 1: Job 3-5
Day 2: 2 Chronicles 34-35	Day 2: Ezra 8	Day 2: Nehemiah 7-8	Day 2: Esther 3-4	Day 2: Job 6-9
Day 3: 2 Chronicles 36, Ezra 1	Day 3: Ezra 9-10	Day 3: Nehemiah 9	Day 3: Esther 5-7	Day 3: Job 10-12
Day 4: Ezra 2-3	Day 4: Nehemiah 1-2	Day 4: Nehemiah 10-11	Day 4: Esther 8-10	Day 4: Job 13-16
Day 5: Ezra 4-5	Day 5: Nehemiah 3-4	Day 5: Nehemiah 12-13	Day 5: Job 1-2	Day 5: Job 17-19
<sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." <sup>9</sup> And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup> and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." <div style="text-align: right;">Acts 1:8-11 (ESV)</div>				

**What are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?**