

Faithful Unto Death

Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the Crown of Life – Rev 2:10

Conclusion : It is *necessary* to remain faithful unto death to receive eternal life

Necessary Vs. Sufficient Conditions Defined

- Necessary Condition = A necessary condition is a condition that must be satisfied in order to obtain a given result
- *For example*, a necessary condition for getting an A in a History class is that a student hand in a term paper. This means that if the student does not hand in a term paper, then the student will not get an A.

Necessary Vs. Sufficient Conditions Defined

- Sufficient Condition = A sufficient condition is a condition that, if satisfied, guarantees that a given result will be obtained
- *For example*, a sufficient condition for getting an A in a History class is getting an A on every piece of graded work in the course. This means that if a student gets an A on every piece of graded work in the course, then the student is guaranteed an A

Necessary Vs. Sufficient Conditions Defined

- Handing in a term paper is not a sufficient condition for getting an A in the course. It is possible to hand in a term paper and not to get an A in the course
- Getting an A on every piece of graded work is not a necessary condition for getting an A in the course. It is possible to get an A in the course even though one fails to get an A on some piece of graded work

Necessary Vs. Sufficient Conditions - Application

- A necessary condition for salvation is for one to be baptized. If one is not baptized, he/she will not be saved. *The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us ...* 1 Peter 3:21
- It is not sufficient to be baptized. One could be baptized and yet not remain faithful. Rev 2:10

Plan Of Salvation

- **Hear - Romans 10:17**
- **Believe - Acts 16:31**
- **Repent - Acts 3:19**
- **Confess - Romans 10:9**
- **Baptism - 1 Peter 3:21**

Plan Of Salvation

- **Hearing – Necessary**
- How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? - Romans 10:14
- So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. - Romans 10:17

Plan Of Salvation

- **Believe – Necessary**
- And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him - Hebrews 11:6
- “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. - John 5:24

Plan Of Salvation

- **Repent – Necessary**
- For the sorrow that is according to *the will of* God produces a repentance without regret, *leading* to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death. – 2 Cor. 7:10
- Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord – Acts 3:19

Plan Of Salvation

- **Confess – Necessary**
- that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. – Rom 10:9-10
- Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven – Matt 10:32

Plan Of Salvation

- **Baptism – Necessary**
- Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you - not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience - through the resurrection of Jesus Christ – 1 Pet 3:21
- He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned – Mark 16:16

Plan Of Salvation

- **Hearing – NOT Sufficient**
- But some days later Felix arrived with Drusilla, his wife who was a Jewess, and sent for Paul and heard him *speak* about faith in Christ Jesus. But as he was discussing righteousness, self-control and the judgment to come, Felix became frightened and said, “Go away for the present, and when I find time I will summon you.” – Acts 24:24-25

Plan Of Salvation

- **Believe – NOT Sufficient**
- Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing *Him*, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God. – John 12:42-43

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Plan Of Salvation

- **Repent – NOT Sufficient**
- For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and *then* have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame. – Heb 6:4-6

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Plan Of Salvation

- **Confess – NOT Sufficient**
- What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? – James 2:14

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Plan Of Salvation

- **Baptism – NOT Sufficient**
- For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire." – 2 Pet 2:20-22
- Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. – Rev 2:10
- In other words, a person can be baptized, and NOT remain faithful

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Plan Of Salvation

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Plan Of Salvation

- **Hear - Romans 10:17**
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- **Remain Faithful Unto Death – Rev 2:10**

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Plan Of Salvation

NOTE : To deny this NECESSARY step:

- **Remain Faithful Unto Death – Rev 2:10**

Is to endorse the
“Once Saved, Always Saved” doctrine

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Faithful Unto Death Example

- Jesus is our example:
- Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name – Phil 2:8-9

Faithful Unto Death “Should”

- Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong – 1 Cor 16:13
- for we walk by faith, not by sight – 2 Cor 5:7

Faithful Unto Death “Must”

- For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “BUT THE RIGHTEOUS man SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.” – Rom 1:17
- After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, “Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.” – Acts 14:21-22
- So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” – John 8:31

Faithful Unto Death “Must”

- yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach - if indeed you continue in the faith firmly established and steadfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel that you have heard, which was proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, was made a minister. – Col 1:22-23
- so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls. – 1 Pet 1:9

Faithful Unto Death “Must”

- I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing – 2 Tim 4:7-8
- My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins – James 5:19-20

Faithful Unto Death "Must"

- But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, do not be arrogant toward the branches; but if you are arrogant, *remember that* it is not you who supports the root, but the root *supports* you. You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." Quite right, they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but fear; for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either. Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, *if you continue in His kindness: otherwise you also will be cut off.* And they also, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. – Rom 11:17-23

Those Who Are NOT Faithful Unto Death

- But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times *some will fall away from the faith*, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons – 1 Tim 4:1
- "If anyone does not abide in Me, *he is thrown away* as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and *cast them into the fire* and they are burned. – John 15:6

Those Who Are NOT Faithful Unto Death

- For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, *and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance*, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame – Heb 6:4-6
- For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, *the last state has become worse for them than the first.* – 2 Pet 2:20

Advocates Of "Once Saved, Always Saved" Reference These Verses

- But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Rom 8:37-39
- "This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. "For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day." – John 6:39-40

Rebuttal

- Rom 8:37-39 : Context –

Verse 28 - And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those *who love God*. Verse 31 - *If God is for us, who is against us?*

If *we love God* and therefore *God is for us*, Nothing can separate us from God. If we *stop loving God* and therefore *God is no longer for us*, We separate ourselves from God.

But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden *His* face from you so that He does not hear. – Isaiah 59:2

In other words, nothing can separate us from God –
EXCEPT OURSELVES

Rebuttal

- John 6:39-40 : Context –

It is the will of the Father that the Son lose none that has been given to Him. However, we know that some (once saved) will end up lost. (Reference: Heb 6:4-6, 2 Pet 2:20)

It is also the will of the Father that NONE be lost, but some will be: The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. – 2 Pet 3:9

Verse 40 - that everyone who beholds the Son *and believes in Him* will have eternal life. When we cease to believe, we forfeit our salvation. Man has free will – God will not "override" man's free will and force a person to remain in a saved condition who no longer wants to love & obey God.

for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica – 2 Tim 4:10
When one falls away, it is NOT a failure on God's part.

Plan Of Salvation

- ◆ Hear - Necessary
- ◆ Believe - Necessary
- ◆ Repent - Necessary
- ◆ Confess - Necessary
- ◆ Baptism - Necessary
- ◆ Remain Faithful - Necessary

Plan Of Salvation The "Religious World's" View

- ◆ Hear - Necessary
- ◆ Believe – Necessary & Sufficient
- ◆ Repent – Not Necessary
- ◆ Confess – Not Necessary
- ◆ Baptism – Not Necessary
- ◆ Remain Faithful – Not Necessary

Plan Of Salvation The "Religious World's" View

- ◆ The "Religious World" will focus on a verse like John 5:24 and not give equal weight to other verses

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life." – John 5:24

Plan Of Salvation Harmonizing ALL Verses

- ◆ If verse 1 says – Do A and be saved and verse 2 says – Do B and be saved, You must draw one of the following conclusions:

- 1) The Bible contradicts itself.
- 2) God is telling me I must do A and B. In other words, A and B are both necessary.

Plan Of Salvation Harmonizing ALL Verses

The Important Question:

What is SUFFICIENT for salvation?

Plan Of Salvation Harmonizing ALL Verses

- A) Hear – Necessary
- B) Believe – Necessary
- C) Repent – Necessary
- D) Confess – Necessary
- E) Baptism – Necessary
- F) Remain Faithful – Necessary

**A + B + C + D + E + F
is SUFFICIENT for Salvation**