

# Safeguard Your Soul

## Learn about OSAS and Reject It

<https://www.totalhealth.bz/Safeguard%20Your%20Soul.pdf>

### Introduction:

- A. Every man who proclaims to be a gospel preacher should want to safeguard his soul and the souls of all those whom he might influence.
  
- B. Some preachers are worthy and effective in their teaching to help make this a reality.
  - 1. Unfortunately, others are either **misinformed** or **deceived** and seem to be **activists** for Satan by teaching things that help the devil take control of the redeemed.
  - 2. Every Christian should be determined to safeguard their own soul but that cannot be done by perverting scripture and refusing to consider what the Scriptures teach as to how to accomplish this goal.
  - 3. When numerous clear passages are presented contradicting a doctrine that helps the devil, yet a proponent is not disturbed by these passages, this attitude can be seen only as *unbelief*.
  
- C. This sermon is not just a refutation of false doctrine but is also intended to obliterate in our minds any **inkling of a thought** that we can **get by** just knowing the truth, but not **DOING** it.
  - 1. Hopefully this sermon will also help us to avoid temptation.
  - 2. We need to understand the **progressiveness of sin** i.e., that little things lead to bigger things – “One thing leads to another”.
    - a. Scripture:  
Psalms 1:1 *“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.”*
    - b. If you toy with sin, you start the process – the *progression*, and it can lead to your fall, of which you may or may not repent.

- c. The blood of Christ continuously cleanses the sins of Christians as we *“walk in the light,”* (1 John 1:7) but at some point, in the progression of sin, we **step out of the light** and the promise is no longer valid.

## **Body:**

### **Main points to be discussed:**

- I. What OSAS IS
- II. The Origin of OSAS
- III. How OSAS Benefits the Devil
- IV. Consequences of OSAS
- V. The Attraction for This Doctrine (OSAS)
- VI. Two Extreme Views
- VII. Things OSAS Promoters Say about Those Who Object to Their Teaching
- VIII. Passages Misunderstood or Misused to Support OSAS
- IX. Passages that Soundly Refute OSAS

With these points of discussion before you, we begin the lesson proper with discussion of:

### **I. What OSAS Is**

- A. OSAS (once saved always saved), also known as “perseverance of the saints” (one of the five doctrines known as Calvinism), is the idea that a Christian cannot ever fall from grace, or be lost, no matter what he does or how he lives the rest of his life.
- B. This lesson is to inform you of the Bible’s teaching regarding this harmful doctrine and how it may affect believers and benefit the devil.

### **II. The Origin of OSAS**

- A. Satan was the first to teach this eternal security lie.

1. God had said: *“And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die”* (Gen. 2:16).
  2. When Satan confronted Eve with his deception she told him what God had said, but Genesis 3:4-5 records Satan's words to her:  
*“4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”*
- B. Men and women who promote OSAS have believed the same lie and have joined forces with Satan who fights against God as he seeks to destroy souls.
- C. OSAS is a component of Calvinism, which is a sinister belief system that usually requires years of theological training in scriptural manipulation for one to be fully conditioned to stay with it.
1. Whereas the common man who looks honestly into the word of God comes away from his study knowing that, to have assurance of a *“crown of life”* in heaven, one must *endure, abide, continue, remain, and standfast* in the faith to the end (Rev. 2:10).
  2. OSAS is just as false and destructive today as the day it was invented.
  3. To safeguard those who love truth and who do not want to be deceived, God teaches us in various ways:
    - a. through passages that warn against this doctrine,
    - b. through passages that provide EXAMPLES and
    - c. passages that are CLEAR STATEMENTS.

### **III. How OSAS Benefits the Devil**

- A. OSAS removes the fear of God from the hearts of those who embrace it and lowers or removes their guard, leading to sins of neglect (omission) or willful sin (commission).
- B. This doctrine makes people think they are destined for heaven even while practicing the list of sins the apostle Paul said would result in failing to enter the kingdom of God (Gal. 5:17-25).
  - 1. Thus, there is no compulsion to thrive in the Lord's service.
  - 2. Furthermore, OSAS teachers fail to instill the awareness of condemnation for those who not only are of no value in the Lord's army and kingdom but who are doing much harm to the Lord's cause by their example.

#### IV. Consequences of OSAS

- A. Since Christianity is composed of members who are soldiers of Christ commissioned to *“teach others also”* (2 Tim. 2:2; Mark 16:15) any who teach or follow OSAS are in stark opposition to the idea that submission, compliance, labor, and obedience are necessary for salvation.
  - 1. Paul placed those who so walk into the category of *disorderly* conduct.
    - a. He said they *“walk disorderly”* (2 Thes. 3:6-15), which is a military term – and a practice not taken lightly.
    - b. Paul lays out a plan either to restore the disorderly or to *“withdraw”* from them until they repent and *“return to the father,”* as did the prodigal son who finally saw his only hope was to return home (Luke 15:11-32, NEW).
  - 2. This example shows that people have “free will” to choose their path in life. OSAS takes away free will.

*“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely”* (Rev 22:17).

- B. Indeed, man has a choice as to whether he will *“take the water of life”* as well as turn loose of it.

## V. The Attraction for This Doctrine (OSAS)

- A. Perhaps the main reason people want to believe in OSAS is that they simply do not want to truly repent and die to self.
  - 1. They want to live as they please and still have the same eternal security as those who meet God's conditions to truly have it.
  - 2. The doctrine gives counterfeit (false) security.
    - a. Real and true security is had ONLY by those who *"walk in the light,"* resulting in continual cleansing of all their sins (1 John 1:7).
    - b. To *"walk in the light"* refers to one's *"walk of life"* or general character; it is that which Christ approves as exemplified by the holy Scriptures.
      - 1) This is reasonable.
      - 2) But how could we expect God to give an eternal home to people who reject Him and become an enemy to the truth and the kingdom?
      - 3) That is simply not reasonable, and the Bible not only does not support this idea but teaches against it from beginning to end.
  
- B. The attraction to OSAS is in the same category as the lie of Satan in the Garden of Eden that enticed Eve to obey Satan instead of God.

## VI. Two Extreme Views

- A. One might hold to one of two extreme views, but because both are extreme and contrary to truth, they should be seen for what they are and rejected.
  - 1. OSAS is one, which has been defined above.
  - 2. The other is the idea that any and every sin causes the Christian to automatically fall from grace.
    - a. Though still a child of God, this person is declared to be "lost" until he learns of the sin, repents, and confesses it (1 John 1:9).

- b. Fortunately, honest people can enjoy spiritual security by following God's system (discussed above), which is fundamentally different.
  - 3. The truth is in the middle, between the two extremes.
- B. Why hold an **extreme** and **false view** when you can hold to the truth, which is neither?
- 1. Eternal security is obtained by obedience to the gospel and continued faithfulness.
  - 2. **Faithfulness** may be defined as having a love for Christ, **respect** for His authority as revealed in the New Testament, and a **will** to diligently follow the teachings of His apostles that relate to a Christian's responsibilities.

## VII. How OSAS Promoters Feel about Those Who Object to Their Teaching

- A. Below is a comment made to me on a Facebook discussion:  
 "It is obvious that you lack the faith necessary to accept salvation by grace through faith."
- 1. Evidently, this person believes that those who do not believe in OSAS are not saved.
  - 2. He said I lacked the faith to be saved.
    - a. Well, faith comes by hearing the word of God (Rom. 10:17).
    - b. Accepting the grace through faith has nothing to do with whether one can lose faith and fall from the grace that was obtained by faith when obeying the gospel (Rom. 6:3, 4; 17, 18).
- B. When I was in a debate on eternal security with Dr. Lloyd Olson, he often referred to the Bible-backed position I hold as a "human-centered legalistic theology."
- 1. And he referred to the Lord's church as a *cult*. (See: <https://www.totalhealth.bz/EternalSecurity.pdf> .)
  - 2. Generally, those who believe in OSAS also believe in "faith only," or maybe "grace only" or several "only's" at the same time (and the total Calvinism gambit [TULIP]), but this guy

expressed that he believes **one does not have to do anything to be saved or to keep saved.**

3. He said, "Everything that needs to be done to receive and keep eternal life was done for me by Jesus Christ."

## VIII. Passages Misunderstood or Misused to Support OSAS

### A. John 10:27-29

*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.*

1. Indeed, no one can take a soul from God's "**hand.**"
  - a. We are safe there from the enemy snatching us from God.
  - b. But this does not mean a person cannot himself leave the safety of God's "hand."
2. The Bible warns about the possibility of a Christian's falling, it gives examples of some who did fall, it teaches what a Christian must endeavor to do to keep from falling (2 Pet. 1:5-11), and it says, "**if you do these things you shall never fall.**"
  - a. "IF" is the key word that must not be ignored.

**Collins Dictionary:** conjunction. You use if in conditional sentences to introduce the circumstances in which an event or situation might happen, might be happening.

- b. This passage supplies the things we must do to assure we do not fall.

### B. Ephesians 1:13-14

*In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.*

Thayer gives some definitions of the word “seal” that allow us to understand that this passage does not contradict those that clearly teach that a believer can be lost:

*in order to prove, confirm, or attest a thing  
to confirm authenticate, place beyond doubt  
to prove one’s testimony to a person that he is  
what he professes to be*

The following parallel passage confirms Thayer’s definition:

2 Cor. 1:21-22

*Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.*

C. John 3:16

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.*

1. This passage is often misused to teach both salvation at the point of faith and OSAS.
  - a. The word “believe,” as used in this context, is comprehensive and **includes** obedience.
  - b. *Belief* obviously is not mental assent because James said, “*Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble*” (James 2:19)
  - c. Furthermore, John wrote, “*Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: 43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God*” (John 12:42, 43).
2. A true believer is an obedient believer.
  - a. Jesus said the true believer would have eternal life – not that this life could never be forfeited.
  - b. The word *eternal* is from the Greek word *aiōnios*, which has reference to the *life of God*.
    - 1) That life is eternal by nature.

- 2) But there is no implication that one cannot separate himself from that life by a change of heart from love and obedience to rebellion against God.

D. Rom 6:23

*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

1. It is argued that:

“A gift is something given out of love, irrespective of merit, and is never taken back. A prize, on the other hand, is something we qualify for and earn. And if we’re not careful we can lose it. (Rev. 3:11) Paul had already received the Gift of salvation, it was behind him. Now he was focused on winning the prize as well.”

2. First, if a gift is given with qualifications or conditions, to include its being taken back if the conditions are not met, then when the gift receiver ceases to meet the conditions, the gift is taken back.
  - a. The “prize” is eternal life in heaven – the “*crown of life*” we receive **if** we are faithful until the end (Rev. 2:10).
  - b. This OSAS defender gave up the proposition by asserting that we should be careful lest we lose the prize.
  - c. Furthermore, eternal life is not to be looked upon as DURATION, but quality of life that God shares, which by nature is eternal but can be lost if/when we separate ourselves from God. Note the phrase “*life of God*” in the following passage:

*Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: (Eph 4:18).*

E. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

*Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.*

*Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.*

1. This passage confirms what we said above about qualifications or conditions: *“Run in such a way as to get the prize.”*
2. “Run” is equivalent to *diligence* defined as “careful and persistent work or effort.”

F. Romans 8:38–39

*For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

1. What a wonderful passage!
2. It is designed to assure us that outside powers are inferior to God’s powers.
3. It does not, however, address the fact that one can lose faith and turn away from God.

G. I Peter 1:5

*Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

This passage confirms our explanation of the previous passage, which is that one must keep the faith to retain salvation.

H. John 4:13

*Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: 14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.*

1. OSAS believers draw the wrong conclusion from this passage.
2. Let’s look closely at verse 15:

*“The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.”*

- a. The woman at the well could not get past thinking about the water she was there to draw from the well.
- b. Evidently, it was a task of which she was not fond, and she thought Jesus offered a way to avoid it.
  - 1) Jesus explained that the water he offered would be a well springing up into everlasting life.
  - 2) He doesn't just give us a drink – He gives us a well from which we can continually drink, and with promise.

I. Romans 8:1

*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

1. Some fail to read the context and assert that Christians are “judgment proof.”
  - a. The Hebrews writer (10:30) quelled that idea when he wrote *“For we know him that hath said, Vengeance [belongeth] unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.”*
  - b. Christians are *judgment proof* as long as we remain faithful, i.e., walk *“after the spirit,”* which is the same as walking *“in the light”* (1 John 1:7).

## IX. Passages That Soundly Refute OSAS

A. I Timothy 4:1

*Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;*

1. How can one depart from the faith if he has not been saved?
2. Only those who were once saved can depart from the faith.
3. The passage gives a warning about something that can happen.

B. Matthew 7:21

*Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.*

This passage addresses praying disciples and concludes with a warning that failure to DO the will of God will result in not getting the final reward.

C. 1 John 2:4

*The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.*

1. One may initially have love for the Lord and resolve to follow Him and even confess to others that he is a Christian.
2. Nevertheless, John says he is a liar, and the truth is not in him if he does not DO what Jesus commands.

D. Hebrews 3:12

*Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.*

1. Now, OSAS believers often argue that if one departs from the faith (God) he never was in the faith.
2. Well, that cannot be true because this passage is addressed to *brethren* and the warning is NOT to depart.
3. You cannot depart from something you have yet to attain.

E. John 15:1-2 (MKJV)

*I am the True Vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away. And every one that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bring forth more fruit.*

This passage affirms that simple failure to bear fruit will result in being lost, which defeats the OSAS teaching. Let us now note the conclusion of Jesus' statement:

F. John 15:6 (MKJV)

*If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered. And they gather and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.*

This is a warning to Christians: either continue in the faith or be destroyed. We have a choice, and we have *will*. The question is, "What **will** we do?"

G. Matthew 24:10-13

*And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. 11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. 12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. 13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.*

1. OSAS teachers insist that if one is initially saved, he is "judgment proof."
  - a. Leaders of Israel apparently held to this errant position.
    - 1) They refused to call people to true repentance and personal holiness.
    - 2) The Hebrews writer wrote to them saying: "*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*" (Heb 12:14).
  - b. The Gentile believers certainly were not judgment proof.

*"Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: 21 For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. 22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off"* (Romans 11:20-22).
2. The apostle Paul did not believe he was judgment proof. He wrote "*But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway*" (1 Corinthians 9:27).

G. Galatians 5:19

*Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are [these]; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions,*

*heresies, 21 Envy, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told [you] in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*

This text gives a stern warning to those who might fall into temptation, the result of which is that such persons “*shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*”

H. John 8:31

*Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, [then] are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

1. To *continue* in His word means to remain or abide.
  - a. His word must be in your heart.
  - b. You must learn about Jesus and follow His teachings.
2. Obeying this passage will result in your being a true disciple - you will know the truth and you will be free!

I. 1 Corinthians 3:16

*Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which [temple] ye are.*

1. Paul states that Christians are the temple of God, in which the Spirit of God dwells.
2. He is talking about the possibility of defiling one's body with sinful behavior, which will result in destruction.

J. I Corinthians 9:27 (ESV)

*But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.*

Paul emphasized the need to discipline himself and keep his life under control – the point being that failure to do so would result in his being “*disqualified*” or “*a castaway*” (KJV).

K. Luke 9:61

*And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. 62 And*

*Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*

Not only is the kingdom of God (heaven) no longer something for which to hope if one turns from God, but Jesus said just “looking back” makes one unfit for the experience.

L. I Corinthians 10:1-12

*Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. 6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. 7 Neither be ye idolaters, as [were] some of them; as it is written, the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. 8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. 9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. 10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. 11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. 12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.*

1. If it were not possible to fall, then why did the apostle Paul give this example of those who fall and conclude with “**take heed lest ye fall**”?
2. Someone might quibble that “this is Old Testament,” but Paul wrote,  
*“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope”* (Rom 15:4).

M. Galatians 5:3

*For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. 4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.*

1. This is a very clear example of Christians who were deceived into wrong doctrine.
2. They fell from grace.
3. This means they no longer had a promise or hope of the reward (“prize”) promised to those who remain faithful to Jesus.

N. Hebrews 3:12

*Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an **evil heart of unbelief, in departing** from the living God. 13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called Today; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*

1. Christians are hereby addressed with a warning to “*exhort one another daily*” to avoid losing faith, resulting in “*departing from the living God.*”
  - a. This can happen because people’s hearts can be hardened “*through the deceitfulness of sin.*”
  - b. Now, at this point someone might endeavor to pervert John’s teaching by saying a Christian cannot sin (1 John 3:9).
    - 1) John obviously is not saying it is not possible for a Christian to commit a sin, for there are many teachings to the contrary.
    - 2) He is simply saying it is not permissible – that a life of sin is not acceptable.

O. Hebrews 3:6

*But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.*

Here the writer is telling us that it does not matter how we start but how we end. We must hold fast our faith “*unto the end.*”

P. Hebrews 10:26

*For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. 28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

1. The key word is “willfully,” which implies a rebellious attitude resulting in giving up the duties of a Christian that involve both needful action and avoidance of harmful behaviors that are forbidden.
2. The passage is a stern warning that those who willfully turn away will lose all.
  - a. The author said, *“there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.”*
  - b. He also described the condition of the heart of those who allow themselves to slip away, for whatever reason:  
*“27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation.”*

Q. Hebrews 12:14

*Follow peace with all [men], and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:*

This would include Christians who fail to develop the peace under consideration. They *“shall not see the Lord.”*

R. James 5:19

*Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; 20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.*

Not only does this passage warn brethren (Christians) of the possibility of erring from the truth, but it also states that a person who does so is spiritually dead, or at least on his way to spiritual death.

S. II Peter 2:19

*While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. 20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known [it], to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.*

1. First, clearly this passage is directed to Christians.
  - a. Second, there is a warning not to turn back to the way of the world.
  - b. Finally, Peter says if one does turn back, he is worse off than if he had never known the truth, i.e., that these (who were once saved) are now worse off than before.

2. Verse 22

*But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog [is] turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.*

Peter says it HAPPENED and he compares the situation to that of a sick dog that throws up and then eats again the thing that made him sick; just like the hog that when washed goes right back to the mud hole.

T. Revelation 2:5

*Remember therefore from whence **thou art fallen**, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.*

*“Thou art fallen.”*

1. This is condemnation of an assembly of saints.
2. The observation was followed with a command to repent or final judgment would be upon these people, i.e., they would no longer be considered a place where the light (the truth) was to be seen and found.

U. Revelation 22:19

*And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and [from] the things which are written in this book.*

**Conclusion:**

- I. We conclude this lesson with some positive teaching to encourage Christians to continued faithfulness and some teaching for us that may not be easy for some to accept.

A. Romans 8:1

*[There is] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded [is] death; but to be spiritually minded [is] life and peace. 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*

It is simple. If we want “life,” rather than condemnation, we must *walk after the Spirit*. That is something any of us can do.

B. Rom 11:22

*Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.*

1. You can fall - no doubt about it, and the consequences will be severe.
2. But IF we continue in the faith, we will be presented holy in God’s sight and receive “goodness” rather than severity.

C. 1 Peter 1:4

*To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

While Peter's words here are sometimes misused to teach OSAS, his second letter makes it clear just exactly what is involved or required in order not to fall, which is an indication that one can indeed fall if they do not do what is required.

D. II Peter 1:5-11

*And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. 8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: **for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:** 11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

1. Peter provided a list of things that we all can do, and followed with the statement *“for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.”*
2. *And not only that but that an “entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom.”*

E. Revelation 3:16

*So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*

1. What about you?
  - a. Are you hot or cold?
  - b. Some may be thinking “neither.”
    - 1) Then are you lukewarm?
    - 2) Evidently, because it is the only other alternative.
2. Maybe you have concluded that there is a little bit of truth to OSAS – that you can be *lukewarm* and still retain the hope of heaven.

- a. However, if you are *lukewarm* you need to understand that the phrase “*spue thee out of my mouth*” is not to be taken as indication that Jesus approves of your life.
- b. Your eternal destination may not be what you think.

F. Col 1:21-23

*And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblamable and unreprouable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;*

G. Heb 3:14

*For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end;*

## II. This lesson has not been only a refutation of a false doctrine.

- A. **WE** (who reject OSAS) need to learn a lesson, and that is that just because we know the truth about how to be saved and keep saved, that does not mean we are not influenced by OSAS.
1. While we know we must remain in the faith; it may be that we are not willing to accept the teachings that require more of us than we may be willing to give.
  2. If you want to safeguard your soul, be extremely careful not to be led astray by false teaching, learn the truth, resist temptation, and be diligent in your service to the Lord.
- B. Never forget:
1. Peter’s exhortation to “*give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.*”
  2. Jesus’ displeasure for “*luke-warm*” Christians.
    - a. His language regarding His feelings lends no confidence to those who are content with *faith* but **no works**.
    - b. James’ rhetorical question should instill fear in the hearts of all who contend for “*faith only*” and OSAS:

*“What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?”*  
(James 2:14).

**III. Clearly, one cannot save himself by his works alone (apart from Jesus) but the idea that works (doing something that God requires) has nothing to do with getting saved and keeping saved is contrary to what the Bible clearly teaches.**