

1-2019

Eternal Security - Glorious Fact or Grievous Fable?

Harold Willmington

Liberty University, hwillmington@liberty.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/willmington_personal_observations



Part of the [Biblical Studies Commons](#), [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Religious Thought, Theology and Philosophy of Religion Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Willmington, Harold, "Eternal Security - Glorious Fact or Grievous Fable?" (2019). *Dr. Willmington's Personal Observations of the Bible*. 20.

https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/willmington_personal_observations/20

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Dr. Harold Willmington's Personal Observations at Scholars Crossing. It has been accepted for inclusion in Dr. Willmington's Personal Observations of the Bible by an authorized administrator of Scholars Crossing. For more information, please contact scholarlycommunications@liberty.edu.

ETERNAL SECURITY—GLORIOUS FACT OR GRIEVOUS FABLE?

“Why, if I believed that way, I could go out tonight, get drunk, lie, cheat, steal, commit adultery, and live like the devil, and still be saved.”

I would like to relate a personal experience here. Some years ago an Arminian friend of mine would often repeat the above words to me. One day I said, “Glen, you’re always bringing this up. Let me ask you a personal question. Are you telling me that the *only* reason holding you back from going out tonight and doing all these things is the knowledge that *if* you did, you’d be lost?”

He quickly assured me, “Oh, no! That’s not the main reason why. I don’t do them because I love my family and the Lord!”

I then told him, “I feel the same way! I simply have no desire to do those things. My belief in eternal security has nothing whatsoever to do with the matter.”

But someone might object, “How about the person who does all the terrible things but still claims to be eternally saved?” Well, I think the first question I would ask him is just what the Savior has saved him from! For such a one the following verses are sobering indeed:

- *Examine yourselves whether you be in the faith* (2 Cor. 13:5)
- *Bring forth fruits showing your repentance* (Mt. 3:8)
- *A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit* (Mt. 7:18)
- *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new* (2 Cor. 5:17)

P. S. May I ask you to tell someone about Emmaus Bread?