

GraceLife Church Presents . . .

Soteriology

The Purpose,
Accomplishment, Plan, and
Application of Redemption

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

- ❖ Last time we completed sanctification. The final aspect in the *ordo salutis* is the perseverance of the saints.
- ❖ Perseverance is closely related to sanctification.
 - ❖ God and Man are involved in the same way as in sanctification.
 - ❖ Like sanctification, perseverance continues until glorification.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

“Scripture speaks of the perseverance of the saints in the same way it does about sanctification. It admonishes believers to persevere to the end (Matt 24:13; Rom 2:7–8); to remain in Christ, in his word, in his love (John 15:1–10; 1 John 2:6, 24, 27; 3:6, 24; 4:12ff.); to continue in the faith, not shifting (Col 1:23; Heb 2:1; 3:14; 6:11); to be faithful to death (Rev 2:10, 26).”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 4:266.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

- ❖ Perseverance is also closely related to everything we've studied thus far in soteriology.
- ❖ Our views of salvation are going to impact our understanding of the doctrine of perseverance.
- ❖ Decisions we have argued for in the previous lectures will serve as the foundation for what we talk about today.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

- ❖ This is the 34th lecture on soteriology.
 - ❖ 2 Prolegomena
 - ❖ 6 Atonement (Accomplishment of Redemption)
 - ❖ 6 Election and Reprobation (Plan of Redemption)
 - ❖ 1 Ordo Salutis (Application of Redemption).
 - ❖ 2 Sin (Hamartiology)
 - ❖ 16 Application of Redemption

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Question(s) of Perseverance

- ❖ What are we asking when we ask, ‘What does the whole Bible say about the perseverance of the saints?’?
- ❖ How do we know if we will continue to be Christians throughout our whole lives?
- ❖ Is there anything that will keep us from ‘falling away’ from Christ?

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Question(s) of Perseverance

- ❖ Is there anything that will guarantee that we will make it to heaven in the end?
- ❖ Could a genuine Christian lose their salvation?
- ❖ Can those who trust Christ for salvation at one time later turn from that faith and lose their eternal life?

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Question(s) of Perseverance

“Now the question with respect to this doctrine of perseverance is not whether those who have obtained a true saving faith could not, if left to themselves, lose it again by their own fault and sins; nor whether sometimes all the activity, boldness, and comfort of faith actually ceases, and faith itself goes into hiding under the cares of life and the delights of the world.”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 4:267.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Question(s) of Perseverance

“The question is whether God upholds, continues, and completes the work of grace he has begun, or whether he sometimes permits it to be totally ruined by the power of sin.”

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Question(s) of Perseverance

“In order to place the doctrine of perseverance in proper light we need to know what it is not. It does not mean that every one who professes faith in Christ and who is accepted as a believer in the fellowship of the saints is secure for eternity and may entertain the assurance of salvation.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 160–61.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Question(s) of Perseverance

“ . . . the question remains: will the saints persevere? Is it so ordained by God that those who do truly believe in Christ will persevere to the end? The answer to this is, emphatically, yes.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 165.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Outline of Perseverance

- ❖ The Definition of Perseverance
- ❖ The Guarantee of Perseverance
- ❖ The Necessity of Perseverance
- ❖ The Corollary of Perseverance

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

- ❖ What do we mean by *The Perseverance of the Saints*?

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“The doctrine of perseverance is the doctrine that believers persevere; it cannot be too strongly stressed that it is the *perseverance* of the saints. And that means that the saints, those united to Christ by the effectual call of the Father and indwelt by the Holy Spirit, will persevere unto the end. If they persevere, they endure, they continue.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 164.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“It is not at all that they will be saved irrespective of their perseverance or their continuance, but that they will assuredly persevere. Consequently the security that is theirs is inseparable from their perseverance.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 164.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

- ❖ Can you see the difference there?
- ❖ “It is not at all that they will be saved irrespective of their perseverance or their continuance.”
- ❖ It is “that they will assuredly persevere.”
- ❖ This is a huge difference. There is no salvation apart from perseverance.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“The very expression, ‘The Perseverance of the Saints’ in itself guards against every notion or suggestion to the effect that a believer is secure, that is to say, secure as to his eternal salvation, quite irrespective of the extent to which he may fall into sin and backslide from faith and holiness.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 163.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“Perseverance is not an activity of the human person but a gift from God. . . . He watches over it and sees to it that the work of grace is continued and completed. He does not, however, do this apart from believers but through them.”

Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics*, 4:267.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

- ❖ This doctrine is sometime called (less carefully) *Eternal Security*, or *The Security of the Believer*.
- ❖ Eternal security can convey the idea the the believer is secure regardless of their perseverance (or lack thereof).

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“The perseverance of the saints means that all those who are truly born again will be kept by God’s power and will persevere as Christians until the end of their lives, and thus only those who persevere until the end have been truly born again.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 336.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“This definition has two parts to it. It indicates first that there is assurance to be given to those who are truly born again, for it reminds them that God’s power will keep them as Christians until they die, and they will surely live with Christ in heaven forever.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 336.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“On the other hand, the second part of the definition makes it clear that continuing in the Christian life is one of the evidences that a person is truly born again. It is important to keep this aspect of the doctrine in mind as well, lest false assurance be given to people who were never really believers in the first place.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 336.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

- ❖ We will cover both sides of Grudem's definition under the headings . . .
 - ❖ *The Guarantee of Perseverance.*
 - ❖ *The Necessity of Perseverance.*

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“The perseverance of the saints means that [1] all those who are truly born again will be kept by God’s power and will persevere as Christians until the end of their lives, and thus [2] only those who persevere until the end have been truly born again.”

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“This definition . . . indicates first that there is assurance to be given to those who are truly born again, for it reminds them that God’s power will keep them as Christians until they die, and they will surely live with Christ in heaven forever.”

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The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Definition of Perseverance

“... the second part of the definition makes it clear that continuing in the Christian life is one of the evidences that a person is truly born again. It is important to keep this aspect of the doctrine in mind as well, lest false assurance be given to people who were never really believers in the first place.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 336.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ Where in God's word do we see the promise that true believers will indeed persevere to the end?
- ❖ To answer this we do well to remember what we have covered up to this point in soteriology.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ First, salvation was planned by God the Father before the foundation of the world (Eph 1:4).
- ❖ He chose us, not based upon anything that we did, or would do, whether good or bad, but according to his own electing purpose (Rom 9:11).

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ This electing choice is called predestination. It is God's decision before, his purpose, and he works 'all things according to the counsel of his will' (Eph 1:5, 11).
- ❖ God the Father by this predestination gave a group of people to his beloved Son (John 6:37, 39; 10:29; 17:2, 6, 24). These are the elect.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ Second, God the Son made atonement for these people.
- ❖ He represented that particular group people by his life (fulfilling our righteousness) and death on the cross (for our forgiveness).
- ❖ This sacrifice is called a propitiation, redemption, ransom, atonement, and reconciliation.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ These things (propitiation, redemption, ransom, atonement, and reconciliation) are not potential but rather actual.
- ❖ By this sacrifice God is now propitious, we are redeemed, ransomed, reconciled, and at-one.
- ❖ Those for whom that payment was made will never pay that penalty themselves.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ Third, God the Holy Spirit works to save that same group of elect sinners who must have the work Christ accomplished applied to them at a definite point in their lives.
- ❖ Although they are chosen and redemption is accomplished for them, they must be saved from the state in which they were born.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ This application of redemption has many elements beginning with calling, regeneration, conversion (repentance and faith), justification, adoption, sanctification, and now perseverance.
- ❖ Although Father and Son are involved in these movements as well, this is primarily the work of the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ (Interestingly and similarly, the Spirit was involved in election and the work of Christ on earth).

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ When we take all of this together we have a good sense that salvation is by grace.
- ❖ I did not elect myself.
- ❖ I did not atone for myself.
- ❖ I did not regenerate myself.
- ❖ I have nothing to boast of except the work of God in my salvation.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ Salvation is the work of God from beginning to end. It does not ultimately depend on man even though we are involved (for example we believe, repent, grow, etc.).
- ❖ God will not allow *anything* to hinder or thwart his saving purposes.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

- ❖ Now the question becomes, “does Scripture teach that elect believers will persevere to the end?”
- ❖ And, of course, the answer is again, “Yes!”
- ❖ We will begin with the text from which I got the word ‘guarantee.’

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

Eph 1:13 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, **14** 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.

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- ❖ Sealed: ἐσφραγίσθητε (σφραγίζω): indicates God's ownership of the believer.
- ❖ “In speaking of the Holy Spirit as a *seal* the notions of ownership and protection are in view. Cattle, and even slaves were branded with a seal by their masters to indicate to whom they belonged. . . in this sense the seal was a protecting sign or guarantee” (Peter O'Brien, *Ephesians*, 120).

Eph 1:13 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, **14** 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.

- ❖ The Holy Spirit 'is given as a pledge of our inheritance.'
- ❖ Pledge: ἀρραβὼν: “payment of part of a purchase price in advance, *first installment, deposit, down payment, pledge* which secures a legal claim to the article in question, or makes a contract valid . . . in any case, [ἀρραβὼν] is a payment that obligates the contracting party to make further payments.

Eph 1:13 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, **14** 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.

- ❖ “[ἀρραβὸν] is used of earnest money or caution money, which refers to a down payment that was forfeited if the purchase was not completed. It was the first instalment with a guarantee that the rest would follow” (Harold Hoehner, *Ephesians*, 241).
- ❖ “It is sometimes translated pledge but this is really inaccurate because the pledge is returned when the full payment is made (cf. Gen 38:17–20), whereas ἀρραβὸν is a portion of the whole payment” (Harold Hoehner, *Ephesians*, 241).

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“All who have the Holy Spirit within them, all who are truly born again, have God’s unchanging promise and guarantee that the inheritance of eternal life in heaven will certainly be theirs. God’s own faithfulness is pledged to bring it about.”

Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 791.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

John 14:16 “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; **17** *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

John 6:38 “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. **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. **40** “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.”

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- ❖ Note the parallel between ‘all that He has given Me’ (6:39) and ‘everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him’ (6:40).
- ❖ Those given and those who believe will both be ‘raised up on the last day.’ These are the same people.
- ❖ To be ‘raised up on the last day’ is to have ‘eternal life’ (6:40).

John 6:38 “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. **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. **40** “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.”

- ❖ Of those given him by the Father Jesus says, “I lose nothing, but raise it up” (6:39).
- ❖ Moreover, losing nothing and raising it up (to eternal life) is the will of the Father as well.
- ❖ The will of Father and Son is that no believer miss of eternal life.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“Are we to entertain even the remotest suspicion that this will of the Father will be defeated? Jesus here assures us that it will not.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 168.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

John 6:37 “All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.”

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

John 10:27 “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; **28** and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. **29** “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.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“Now some have objected to this that even though no one else can take Christians out of Christ’s hand, we might remove ourselves from Christ’s hand. But that seems to be quibbling over words—does not ‘no one’ also include the person who is in Christ’s hand? Moreover, we know that our own hearts are far from trustworthy. Therefore, if the possibility remained that we could remove ourselves from Christ’s hand, the passage would hardly give the assurance that Jesus intends by it.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 337.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“‘True,’ said an Arminian schismatic, ‘Christ’s sheep cannot be plucked forcibly out of His hand by others; but they themselves may slip through His hands, and so fall into hell and be eternally lost.’ They may slip may they?”

Augustus Toplady, “Assurance and Perseverance,” in *Free Grace Broadcaster* 179, 3.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“As if the Mediator in preserving his people, held only a parcel of eels by the tail! Is not this a shameless way of slipping through a plain text of Scripture?”

Augustus Toplady, “Assurance and Perseverance,” in *Free Grace Broadcaster* 179, 3.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“I would fain ask the slippery sophister how we are to understand that part of the passage that expressly declares concerning Christ’s people, that they shall never perish, since perish they necessarily must and certainly would, if eventually separated from Christ; whether they were to be plucked out of His hands, or whether they were to slip thru them.”

Augustus Toplady, “Assurance and Perseverance,” in *Free Grace Broadcaster* 179, 3.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“I conclude then that the promise made to the saints, that they never perish, secures them equally against the possibility of being either wrested from Christ’s hand or of their falling from it, since, could one or the other be the case, perish they must, and Christ’s promise would fall to the ground.”

Augustus Toplady, “Assurance and Perseverance,” in *Free Grace Broadcaster* 179, 3.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

John 10:28 and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; [κἀγὼ δίδωμι αὐτοῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον καὶ οὐ μὴ ἀπόλωνται εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα] and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“The Greek construction (*ou mē* plus aorist subjunctive) is especially emphatic and might be translated more explicitly, ‘and they shall *certainly not perish* forever.’”

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“But we must also remember that all who are given to Christ come to Christ, that is, believe on him, and all who believe on him are those who have been given to him. Therefore it is not simply of those who have been given to him by the Father that Jesus is speaking in John 10:28–29; he is speaking also of believers.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 170.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“Hence, of all believers, that is, of all who come to Christ in terms of John 6:37, 44, 45, 65, it can be said on the authority of him who is truth, the true God and eternal life, that believers in Jesus’ name will never perish—they will be raised up in the last day to the resurrection of the blessed.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 170.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“The guarantee of infallible preservation is that the persons given to the Son are in the Son’s hand and though given to the Son they are still mysteriously in the Father’s hand. From the hand of neither can any one snatch them. This is the heritage of those who are given by the Father.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 169–70.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

Rom 8:1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

Rom 1:5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about *the* obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake, **6** among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; **7** to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called *as* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

1 Cor 1:9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

Rom 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. **29** For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; **30** and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“Here we have an unbreakable chain of events proceeding from God’s eternal purpose in foreknowledge and predestination to the glorification of the people of God. It is impossible to remove calling from this setting. The called are called according to purpose (ver. 28); the purpose is antecedent to the calling.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 166.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“Moreover, just as calling has its antecedents in foreknowledge and predestination, so it has its consequents in justification and glorification.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 166.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“In connection with the subject at hand, we cannot evade the significance of this passage. Those with whom we are now concerned are saints, the called of Jesus Christ; they are those who are justified by the faith of Jesus Christ. A true believer cannot be defined in lower terms than one who has been called and justified.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 166–67.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“And therefore the question is: may one who has been called and justified fall away and come short of eternal salvation? Paul’s answer is inescapable—the called and the justified will be glorified. . . .

We could rest the argument for the doctrine of perseverance on this one passage.”

John Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, 167.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

Rom 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us? **32** He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? **33** Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; **34** who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. **35** Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

Rom 8:36 Just as it is written,

“FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG;
WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED.”

Rom 8:37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. **38** For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, **39** 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.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

1 Pet 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

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- ❖ Who is protected by the power of God (1:5)?
 - ❖ Those who have been caused (by God) to be born again (1:3)

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“The word ‘guarded’ [ESV] can mean both ‘kept from escaping’ and ‘protected from attack,’ and perhaps both kinds of guarding are intended here: God is preserving believers from escaping out of the kingdom, and he is protecting them from external attacks.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 338.

1 Pet 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

- ❖ (1) They are protected
- ❖ (2) They are protected until the last time.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“‘Salvation’ is used here not of past justification or of present sanctification (speaking in theological categories) but of the future full possession of all the blessings of our redemption—of the final, complete fulfillment of our salvation.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 338.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“Their attainment of final salvation ultimately depends on God’s power.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 338.

1 Pet 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

- ❖ (1) They are protected
- ❖ (2) They are protected until the last time.
- ❖ (3) They are protected through faith

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“God does not guard us *apart from* our faith, but only by working *through* our faith so that he enables us to continue to believe in him.”

Wayne Grudem, *Bible Doctrine*, 338.

The Application of Redemption

Perseverance of the Saints

The Guarantee of Perseverance

“In this way, those who continue to trust in Christ gain assurance that God is working in them and guarding them.”

