How Do I Stay Saved?
Introduction

• Getting possession of something is one thing – keeping it in your possession often requires a lot of effort
• This is true of **salvation**
• We need to make sure we stay in a saved condition
• I. First – Realize that you can fall
• Knowing that we can fall will make us more _diligent_ – make us more careful
Gal. 5:4

• [4] Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.
1 Cor. 15:1-2

• [1] Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;
• [2] By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.
2 Pet. 2:20-22

- [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.
[21] 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.
• [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.
• The Bible **does** teach the possibility of apostasy
• That does not mean that everyone will fall away but only that it is possible
II. Add the Christian Graces to your life
2 Pet. 1:10-11

- [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.
• Here are **character** traits or qualities that we must add to our lives --- if we do add these, we will never fall (v. 10)
Faith

• Heb. 11:1

• [1] “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”
• [12] For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day
Virtue (moral courage)

- Joseph resisted Potiphar’s wife
- Joshua and Caleb stood against the 10 faithless spies
- Paul faced death for the cause of Christ
Heb. 13:5-6

• [5] Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

• [6] So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.
Knowledge

- 2 Pet. 3:18

“[18] But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”
Temperance (self-control)

• 2 Tim. 3:3

• “[3] Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, (without self-control, ASV) fierce, despisers of those that are good”
Gal. 5:22-23

• [22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, [23] Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.
Patience (Perseverance)

• Mt. 10:22

• [22] “And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.”
Godliness

• Deep respect and reverence toward God

• *Rom. 8:29*, ‘For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. ‘
Brotherly Kindness

• Eph. 4:32

• [32] “And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.”
Love

- 1 Cor. 13 - Love
- 1 Cor. 13:4-8
- “4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;
- 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;
• 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;
• 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.
• 8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.”
• If we are truly seeking these things in our lives – making sure we add these great qualities – then we will not fall away

• The heavenly home is secure to the faithful in Christ Jesus
Conclusion

• Have you been saved?
• Are you presently saved? – are you a faithful Christian?
• If the answer to these questions is “no”, then do not leave here without obeying the will of God