

## Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

December 9, 2018

### Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 11:1-13

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Will God Ever Deny Us Salvation?*  
(II Timothy 2:12)

### Announcements:

**Jonathon Nichols** is back in the hospital as he continues to battle his Crohn's Disease.

**Judy Konopasek** is seriously ill in the hospital.

**Next Sunday** we will examine more verses that seem to say that believers are not eternally secure in Christ.

**Paul Balbach** will fill in for Dave Stewart next Sunday.

**Midweek Bible study:** Postponed while Steve is away.

**Our offering box** is located just left of the kitchen door.

**Pick up** today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

## II Corinthians 6:1 *Can a Believer Lose His Salvation?*

People are saved by grace (Eph.2:8), so some say to receive God's grace "in vain" (II Cor.6:1) means you can be saved and then *lose* your salvation by sinning too much or too badly. But Paul says if you've received grace you "shall" reign in life (Rom.5:17), no ifs, ands or buts about it. He also says that he himself *didn't* receive God's grace in vain, but he *labored for the Lord* instead (ICor.15:10).

That means that receiving God's grace in vain means receiving it and then *not* laboring for the Lord. God saved you to labor for Him by doing good works (Eph.2:10), so if you *don't* do good works, you received God's grace in vain. You received it and didn't do anything with it! It has nothing to do with losing your salvation.

People also use Romans 8:13 to say you can lose your salvation. "The flesh" is the part of you that wants to do evil (Rom.13:14). So when Paul says that "if ye live after the flesh, *ye shall die*," some say that means you'll die *eternally* by losing your salvation if you do evil. But later in *that same 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans*, Paul says nothing can separate us from the love of God (8:35-39). So there must be some other explanation—and there is!

First, he means you'll die *physically*. Did you ever wonder how obeying your parents will lead to a long life (Eph.6:1-3). If you don't obey your parents when you're a child, you won't obey the law when you grow up. That means you're more likely to be killed robbing a bank, or by lethal injection if you kill someone. Even if you never get caught committing a crime, you'll always be looking over your shoulder in fear that you *will* be caught, and that causes stress, and stress causes high blood pressure and other diseases that will shorten your life. So if you live after the flesh, you'll die a little physically every day.

But there's other kinds of death in the Bible. Death is *separation*. In physical death, the soul separates from the body (Gen.35:18). In spiritual death, your soul is separated from God (Eph.2:4,5), alienated from His life

(Eph.4:17,18). That's the spiritual condition of all unbelievers. If they *die* in that spiritually dead state, they must experience "the second death" in the lake of fire (Rev.20:14).

But the "death" of Romans 8:13 is what I call "Christian death." Sin will have a *deadening* effect in your spiritual life. If it goes on too long, all your spiritual vital signs will flatline and you'll show absolutely no evidence of any spiritual life at all (cf. I Tim. 5:6). You won't be separated from God, but you may *feel* like you are.

The only good thing about Christian death is *you can raise yourself from it* (Eph.5:14) by just beginning to do what is right (I Cor. 15:34). Better yet, *you can avoid it altogether* by doing what the rest of Romans 8:13 says. Mortify the deeds of the flesh and you'll live—*really* live. Live it up, spiritually speaking. Live life on the highest plane. Try it!

People also use Galatians 6:8 to teach you can lose your salvation. But "corruption" in the Bible is associated with a decaying dead body (Job 17:13,14; Jonah 2:5,6; I Cor. 15:42). If you sow to the flesh, you'll reap *spiritual* corruption. I mean, Romans 8:13 says if you live after the flesh you'll die the death of your Christian experience. Spiritual corruption sets in after that if you *keep* sowing to the flesh.

Decaying bodies *stink* (John 11:39). As the component parts of your spiritual life start to decompose, your Christian life will smell badly. The fruit of the Spirit lists some of those component parts (Gal.5:22). If you sow to the flesh, your "love" will suffer. The carnal Corinthians sowed to the flesh, and Paul had to write them a whole chapter on love. And they didn't seem to have "joy" either. They weren't "longsuffering" either, they were taking one another to court.

All this will affect *your testimony*, another component part of your Christian life, and *your effectiveness as a witness*, yet another part. So instead of *attracting* people to Christ, you'll have them holding their nose and running away.

Instead, you should sow to the Spirit (Gal.6:8) and reap everlasting life—in *this* life (I Tim. 6:12; 17,18).

# Faith Bible Church

[www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com](http://www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com)

## December 9, 2018

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

*Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart*

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

*Pastor Ricky Kurth*

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

*Myrtle Harrison*

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

*Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger*

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### Pastor Ricky Kurth

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