

According to Scripture

Sponsored by Pembroke Seventh Day Adventist Church

In the next several weeks we shall be looking at something that can be held by a person. The doctrine that I am referring to and that is taught by many is the teaching of "Eternal Security" or commonly known as "once saved always saved." This teaching is held by some whole Denominations and also by some Independent churches as well. There is one main text that is referred to by the advocates of this teaching and it is found in John 10:28-29. Jesus is referring to His followers and He says that no one is able to pluck them out of Jesus hand or the Father's hand.

As usual, I would like to encourage the reader to please observe our method of Bible study found in Isaiah 28:9-10. I will be looking here a little and there a little, searching the scriptures on this particular subject. And also looking at some people whose lives were an example of what can happen to individuals.

Let's begin by examining the context of what is being written about in John, chapter 10. By going back just a couple to verses to 10:25-26 we find Jesus giving a short outline of how to be saved. He begins by saying how important belief is and then in verses 27 and 28 He further states how important it is to listen and to follow what one hears (learns) from Jesus. It is after this that Jesus makes the statement that no one is able to pluck them out or (take their eternal life from them). If one were to look back just a few more verses we see that Jesus was making refer-

ence to the Jews' lack of believe in Him and that the Jews themselves were to have their special advantage lost due to their lack of belief. See Jeremiah 18:7-10; Luke 20:9-19; Romans 11:17-22. See also this column for the previous five weeks concerning Spiritual Israel. So one can see how a nation (Israel) could be cut off from being God's special people. But what about an individual? After all, isn't that who Jesus is referring to in John 10:28?

Yes, Jesus is here referring to individuals and not to groups or nations. But before I present a Biblical argument, I would like to present one based on logic. Being a God of love and knowing that the only way to truly receive love is through allowing freedom of choice, God made us as we are, creatures capable of choosing to obey or to disobey, to love or not to love. He did not create creatures that were robots. Even though God knew that eventually Lucifer would become proud and envious of God (Isaiah 14:13-14). He created him with the freedom to choose. God wants love and he can't get that from a sophisticated computer. God gave us the ability to go beyond yes and no. He gave us emotions and choices and intelligence that the rest of the animal kingdom does not comprehend. And yet the teaching has come to be that once you say the words assuming these works are spoken sincerely "I'm accepting you, Jesus as my Savior, please forgive me for my sins, accept me on the basis of my belief," this teaching is saying that once one

says these words one loses their freedom of choice. If God were going to take away our freedom of choice once we accepted Him as our Savior, then why go through all this earth's history, wars, famines, pestilence, murders, rapes, tortures, etc. He could have just as easily created us without the freedom to choose in the beginning and not had an insurrection these past millennia to bother with. He would not have had to come and live a life as a man on this earth, be rejected by all, finally to suffer and die a death on a cross. If freedom of choice is lost once one accepts Jesus, then He is back at square 1. God will be spending an eternity with people who have no choice but to submit in a forced love to Him. They could not make another choice because they gave that freedom up when they accepted Jesus as their savior. I would like to submit that when we are within the sheepfold (in His hand, elsewhere described as within the hedge Job 1:5-10), our eternal life is under God's protection from all outside forces as long as we listen to his voice and follow His will as outlined in the Bible. Our freedom of choice is still there. We can choose to leave the protection of His hand. We can go back to living a life with everything based on selfishness, but if we truly experience the love of God, we will not choose to do so.

Continued next week. Listen to WSTS on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. That's 100.9 FM.



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Connee Brayboy, Editor
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Dr. Delton Johnson announces the opening of A General Dental Practice at 305 E. 3rd St. Pembroke, NC 28372 (Located next to the new Lumbee Bank in the TBS office complex) Accepting patients October 1, 1997 Emergency Patients Welcome Office hours by appointment **521-7112**

Pembroke Kiwanis

Lt. Gov. George Holden, Class of 1970 at UNCP installed the new officers of the Pembroke Kiwanis Club for the year of 1997-98. They are President-Brian Brooks, vice president or president elect George Kenworthy, secretary-Todd Jones and treasurer- Albert Hunt who has served a remarkable 35 years.

Lt. Gov. Holden is the Regional Consultant for the Dept. of Health and Human Services working with the Youth Division. He cited the world wide iodine program to eradicate the iodine deficiency in so many children. Lt. Gov. Holden has been the President of the Fayetteville Kiwanis Club this past year. He played baseball for the Braves under Coach Pennington and majored in physical education. I can recall him in my gymnastic classes and other classes. Golly, that was 27 years ago.

We have enjoyed many years of being served the best meals under Mrs. Lola Revels and Thanked her with a gift of Appreciation and Mrs. Sharon Locklear our waitress. We will miss them. Mrs. Revels health has not been up to par as of late.

We now will be meeting at the Jade Gardens, a splendid Chinese restaurant on Third street, starting next week, Tuesday at 7:00 P.M.

Ray Lowry was voted the Outstanding Kiwanian of the Year. He did a fine job as Fund Raising Chairman for the 1996-97 Year.

Program - Furnie Lambert, Song Leader - Ed Teets; Invocation - Garth Locklear; Reporter - Ken Johnson.

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PEDIATRIC POINTERS

by Dr. Joseph T. Bell
Pediatrician with Robeson Health Care

New parents always have lots of questions to ask after the birth of a new baby boy or girl (and so do the grand-parents of course!). One of the most common questions I get asked in the nursery is about baby jaundice, commonly called "yellow jaundice."

Baby jaundice is a condition caused by the breakdown of red blood cells in the baby's circulatory system after birth. These broken down cells are usually taken care by the liver and excreted out the bladder or intestines. In the newborn, however, the liver is not very mature and cannot handle all the cell products and they begin to build up in the bloodstream. This buildup causes the skin to take on a yellowish color, thus the name "yellow jaundice." As the liver gets more mature, it better handles red cell products and jaundice usually does not recur.

When I speak to parents before they leave the nursery with their newborn, I remind them that a little jaundice is not common during the first week of life. Usually mild jaundice will resolve itself

naturally by the seventh day of life. There are some conditions that may prolong or worsen baby jaundice. Breastfed babies usually have higher levels of jaundice. Breastfed babies usually have higher levels of jaundice than bottle-fed babies, but usually not enough to harm the infant. (Remember, breast-feeding is the best nutrition for a baby!) Occasionally, a difference in blood types between the mom and baby will cause a more severe form of jaundice. Rarely, an infant will be born with a blood disorder that will raise the jaundice level.

If a baby has mild yellowing of the skin during the first week of life, simple observation will do. You can help mild jaundice go away faster by placing the unclothed baby in sunlight that is coming through a closed window. Remember to protect the eyes by covering them with a rolled up washcloth. If the skin becomes a bright yellow or if the jaundice persists or appears after the first week, see your doctor to rule out any serious problems.

Well, that's jaundice in a nutshell. We'll talk again next week!

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SCHEDULE FOR REQUIRED MEETINGS

FOR APPROVAL OF ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS

FOR THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 4, 1997

AND ANY PERTINENT BUSINESS THAT NEEDS ATTENTION

The meetings dates specified below are mandated by G.S. 163-230 (2)a.

The meetings for approval of applications for Absentee Ballots and any pertinent

business that needs attention are scheduled as follows:

- Tuesday, October 7, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Friday, October 10, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Tuesday, October 14, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Friday, October 17, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Tuesday, October 21, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Friday, October 24, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Monday, October 27, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Tuesday, October 28, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Wednesday, October 29, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Friday, October 31, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Monday, November 3, 1997 at 5:30 P.M.
- Tuesday, November 4, 1997 (Count Absentee Ballots at 2-5:00 P.M.)
- Friday, November 7, 1997 at 11:00 A.M. (Canvass)

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