

Assurance of Salvation Part 103

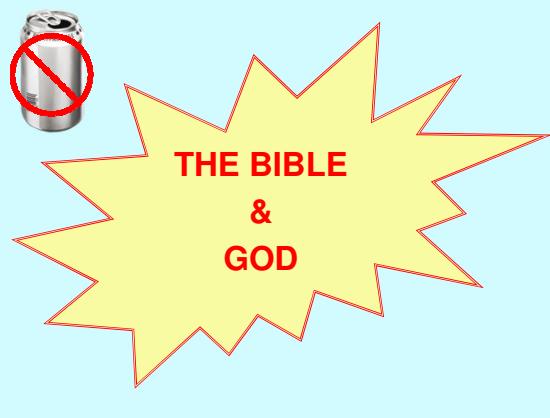
Bible "Cannots"

This study was originally based on the NIV (1984) translation. For publishing, a variety of translations were used, in order to avoid copyright issues.

Bible "CANNOTS"

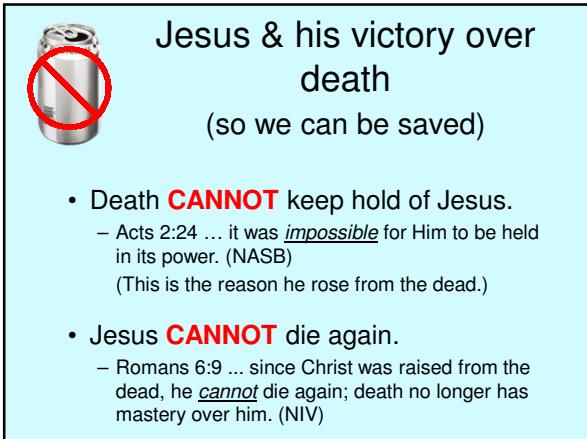
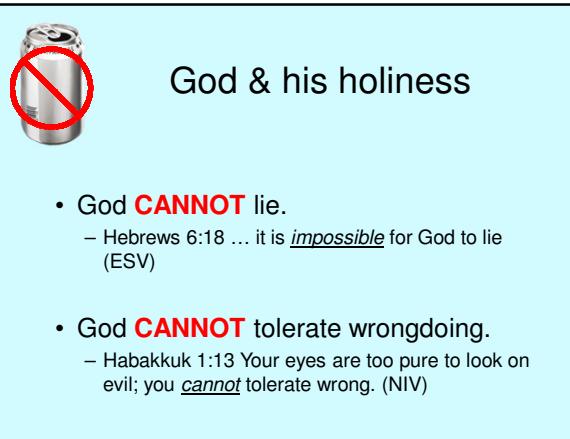


- God's people can rejoice in such verses.
 - These verses can help them grow in their salvation.
- The unsaved and fakes will tend to call it "being negative."
 - Even though it's God's Word!



The Bible & its reliability

- Scripture **CANNOT** be broken.
 - John 10:35b ... Scripture cannot be broken (ESV)
- The Old Testament verse Jesus was quoting cannot be broken, because it is Scripture.
In one sense, you can "break" (violate) the commands of Scripture... but you will lose.





The Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit's work **CANNOT** be controlled or predicted by humans.
 - John 3:8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit. (NIV)
- (Don't make demands of God! Our job is to humbly turn to him, and to trust him to save us.)



THE UNSAVED



The unsaved & sin (1)

- They **CANNOT** get away with sin.
 - Galatians 6:7 Do not be deceived. God cannot be mocked. What a person sows that they will reap. (OEB)
- They **CANNOT** please God while they follow their corrupt sinful nature.
 - Romans 8:8 Those who are under the control of the corrupt nature can't please God. (GW)



The unsaved & sin (2)

- They **CANNOT** stand in God's presence as long as they choose to remain in sin.
 - Psalm 5:4-5 Certainly you are not a God who approves of evil; evil people cannot dwell with you. Arrogant people cannot stand in your presence; you hate all who behave wickedly. (NET)



The unsaved & salvation (1) (they need God's help)

- They **CANNOT** see the truth.
 - 2 Corinthians 4:4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ ... (NIV)
- They **CANNOT** understand the truth.
 - 1 Corinthians 2:14 A person who isn't spiritual [i.e., who does not have the Spirit] doesn't accept the teachings of God's Spirit. He thinks they're nonsense. He can't understand them because a person must be spiritual to evaluate them. (GW)



The unsaved & salvation (2) (they need God, not religion)

- They **CANNOT** be saved by religion.
[an example, based on O.T. practices]
 - Hebrews 10:4 For the blood of bulls and goats cannot take away sins. (NET)
- They **CANNOT** be saved without trusting God.
 - Hebrews 11:6 Now without faith it is impossible to please God, ... (ISV)



God's people & sin

- They **CANNOT** live in sin.

– 1 John 3:9 No one who has been born from God practices sin, because God's seed abides in him. Indeed, he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born from God. (ISV)

(See also 1 John 5:18, which is shown on a later page.)

Can they be "secret Christians"?

- They **CANNOT** live like an unsaved person.
 - Matthew 7:18 A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. (NLT)
(Jesus applies this principle to human conduct.)
- They **CANNOT** remain hidden from the world.
 - Matthew 5:14 You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (NASB)

Their priorities (1)

- They **CANNOT** live for both God and "things."
 - Matthew 6:24 (See also Luke 16:13.) No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. (NLT)

Their priorities (2)

- They **CANNOT** put *anything* ahead of God.
 - Luke 14:26-27, 33 If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ... So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. (ESV)

Their needs

- They **CANNOT** follow Jesus without God's help.
 - Romans 7:18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. (NIV)
- They **CANNOT** live without each other.
 - 1 Corinthians 12:21 An eye can't say to a hand, "I don't need you!" Or again, the head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you!" (GW)



Their eternal security

- They **CANNOT** be harmed by the devil.
 - 1 John 5:18 We know that the person who has been born from God does not go on sinning. Rather, the Son of God protects them, and the evil one cannot harm them. (ISV)

(This verse also shows us that they **CANNOT** live in sin – a topic mentioned previously, with 1 John 3:9.)



God's people & eternity

- Their eternal destiny **CANNOT** be destroyed.
 - Hebrews 12:28-29 Since we are receiving a kingdom that *cannot* be destroyed, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping him with holy fear and awe. For our God is a consuming fire. (NLT)

(This eternal destiny is available *only* to those who pay attention to the other Scripture passages we've looked at!)



A FINAL WARNING TO: THE FAKES

THOSE WHO THINK THEY
CAN ABANDON JESUS, AND
THEN RETURN WHENEVER
THEY PLEASE.



Fakes & their love for sin

- They **CANNOT** deliberately abandon Jesus and expect to always have an opportunity to return.
 - Hebrews 6:4-6 For it is *impossible* in the case of those who have once been enlightened, tasted the heavenly gift, become partakers of the Holy Spirit, tasted the good word of God and the miracles of the coming age, and then have committed apostasy, to renew them again to repentance, since they are crucifying the Son of God for themselves all over again and holding him up to contempt. (NET)

Credits (1)

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