

You wish to know how you can reconcile the certainty of eternal salvation, with the apostacy of those who have once enjoyed religion. There are multitudes who have enjoyed religion, who fall away from that, but none fall away from Christ, and the possession of divine life. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life"—"shall not come into judgment, but is passed from death unto life." Mere profession, or even the natural man worked upon by means of the powerful preaching of the gospel, will all come to nothing; but wherever there is the implantation of the life of Christ—we quickened together with Him—that will last forever, He calls it "everlasting life."

There are two things in scripture, God's *grace* and man's *responsibility*. God's grace effectually and eternally saves every believer, and the soul manifests salvation by a life becoming the gospel, and following Christ to the end; whereas the mere professor, who anon with joy receives the word, and for a while endures, in time of temptation or persecution for the word's sake, falls away; not from Christ, but from a *profession* of having Christ, which had "no root." There has never been one soul who had life in Christ, who has fallen away and been lost since the beginning of christianity, and none ever will, or can.

Just look at the blessed Lord's own words: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness: even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have *eternal life*."