



Once Saved – Always Saved

1st John 5:11-13 (Topical Message)

What a man possesses **"In Christ"** after belief in the Gospel is such an exhaustive topic (in the scriptures) that I could preach a message every week for years on this one topic never repeating myself. But there are some basics of what man possess **"In Christ"** found in the scriptures. One of those basics is a believers Eternal Security.

Eternal Security – Salvation and the assurance of it being secure (not unsecure)!

The scriptures are very clear on this subject:

John 3:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

If man believes in Christ (Gospel), man has Eternal Life:

The scriptures are also clear and assures a believer he has Eternal life:

1 John 5:11-13 (NASB)

¹¹ And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

He who has the Son has life!

Last week I commented on a Facebook post regarding 1st John 5:13, and basically commented in that **POST** that once man is saved, man is always saved and has assurance of his being saved (eternal life):

Immediately, I got about 20-30 responses saying why I was wrong in what I said in that comment and that I needed to read the scriptures more clearly to find out that a believer's Eternal Life isn't secure and can be lost based on man's performance to the Law, or by sin in a man's life:

This is what I want to preach on today – Eternal Security. I will **rebuke the ERROR of the loss of a believer's Salvation by asking and answering 3 questions** about how the loss of Eternal Life is impossible after faith in the Gospel message:

Thus, the title of my message: **Once Saved - Always Saved**

Questions:

- 1. Can a Believer be Unresurrected with Christ?**
- 2. Can a Believer be Uncrucified with Christ?**
- 3. Can a Believer be Undwelt by the Holy Spirit?**

1 John 5:11-13 (NASB)

¹¹ And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Context is Key in Interpretation of the Scriptures:

When we read the bible, we should always ask ourselves 6 interpretive Questions **before we make an application.**

Who, What, When, Where, Why & How? (5 W's & How)

- A. *Who wrote or is Who is speaking, who is the scripture address to? Apostle, Jesus, Moses, Jews, Philippians, Ephesians, etc.*
- B. *What is the context of what is being written?*
- C. *When was this scripture written? **Old Covenant versus New Covenant?***
- D. *Where is the scripture being written from, and to where did it circulate?*
- E. *Why was the Scripture written? Address a specific issue?*
- F. *How does this Scripture apply to my me today as a believer?*

1st Example of Losing Salvation Taken out of Context:

Deuteronomy 11:26-28 (NASB)

²⁶ "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: ²⁷ the blessing, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, which I am commanding you today; ²⁸ and the curse, if you do not listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I am commanding you today, by following other gods which you have not known.

So, let's ask the question, what is the context of this passage in Deuteronomy? This is written to Israel after the Mosaic Law was put into place. This scripture is before the cross and in the dispensation of Law. The Law is how Israel related to God in the Old Covenant. The Old Covenant is a performance-based system.

Law – Performance Based Acceptance

Obey the Commandments – Blessings

Disobey the Commandments - Curses

Now after Christ was crucified and rose from the dead for the forgiveness of sins, when one believes the Gospel, they are now longer under the Law, but under Grace.

Grace – Acceptance Based Performance

The person who quoted this scripture, didn't understand the difference between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant:

Under Grace, a believer's behavior (Good / Bad) never changes a believers Identity!

Ephesians 1:6 (NKJV)

⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved.

The believer is accepted in the Beloved. Who is the Beloved, that is Jesus Christ! If you believe, you are accepted in Christ.

No worries, no anxiety, no performing to be accepted by God like in the Old Covenant.

2nd Example of Losing Salvation Taken out of Context:

Matthew 24:12-15 (NASB)

¹² "Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. ¹³ "But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved. ¹⁴ "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. ¹⁵ "Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),

The post from this person emphasized, the one who endures to the end will be saved. Ok, this is what this scripture says in Matthew 24.

But let's look at the context.

Matthew Chapter 24 is a chapter about Christ's 2nd coming. This chapter speaks of a 7-year tribulation period when the Antichrist (Abomination of Desolation) is seated in the Temple (Holy Place). This was prophesied by the prophet Daniel.

So, the one who endures, is the one who believes the Gospel during the 7-year tribulation period. At the end of this time, Christ returns to set up His Millennial Kingdom (100 years).

But where is the church (believers) at the start of the 7-year Tribulation period?

They are with Christ – raptured and with Him prior to the tribulation period. I could preach a whole message on this topic, and there are many proofs text on the rapture.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 (NASB)

¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

What's my point, all believers will not enter into the tribulation period, because they will already be with Christ.

Those who endure to the end, are believers who come to Christ during the tribulation period. They are saved by belief in the same Gospel message in this period of time (They enter the millennial Kingdom in physical bodies).

These verses don't apply to a Christian losing one's salvation. This was taken out of context and talking about enduring trials and hardships during the Great Tribulation!

3rd Example of Losing Salvation Taken out of Context:

Hebrews 10:26 (NASB)

²⁶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

This post emphasized that there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins after receiving knowledge of the truth.

Again, lets look at the context. The whole book of Hebrews talks about a new and better Covenant (New Covenant) versus the Old Covenant. In one verse it even says the Old Covenant is old, and obsolete – There is a new and better Covenant.

The book stresses that Jesus is the once and for all sacrifice for sins of man, and that it's impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away a man's sins. The sacrificial system was temporary and only covered man's sins for the prior year - **Day of Atonement**. Because Jesus died once for all, there is no longer any need for animal sacrifices.

Hebrews 10:12 (NASB)

¹² but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,

This is the knowledge of truth the writer of Hebrews is referring to here.

In context, the writer is saying Hebrews if you think by going back to the sacrificial system to take away your sins. You are wrong! There no longer remains for you a path for the forgiveness of your sins! The new way is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, not the shed blood of bulls & goats.

So, this has nothing to do with losing a believer's salvation. This is the writer of Hebrews clarifying and stressing that Jewish converts not go back to the Mosaic Law, and the Sacrificial System for dealing with sin!

They now have the forgiveness of Sins by belief in Jesus Christ and His once for all Sacrifice for Sin!

See how important Context is and asking the questions [Who, What, When, Where, Why and How?] before we make an application to scripture!

What is the big take away from this part of my message –

Understand the context and whether you're reading from! Especially look at the context being from the Old Covenant (Law), or from the New Covenant (Grace)

Question:

1. Can a Believer be Unresurrected with Christ?

A local believer asked my wife a question on FB the other day about why so many Christians seem to be walking away from the faith/church (in his opinion). He was a 30-year-old male. He was stressing that these people somehow lost their salvation.

The real truth is that many walk away from the faith/church because they are trying to live the Christian life by law, or from their flesh independently from God. They have yet to discover that a believer can't live the Christian life that way. Only Christ can live it for them (in them, and thru them)!

My wife presented this question to this 30-year-old male (My 1st Point) – ***Can a Believer be Unresurrected with Christ? He never answered the question, but it seems very obvious to me!***

The Answer is No, No, No. It's impossible to be unresurrected!

Christ can't be unressurected!

You as a believer can't be unressurected!

Why, because you are united to Christ!

Romans 6:4b-5 (NASB)

^{4b} so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection,

Brothers & Sisters – You were resurrected with Christ, that cannot be reversed, thus you can't lose your resurrection life, you can't lose your salvation.

You can't be unresurrected!

1 Corinthians 15:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

If Christ wasn't raised from the dead, the Gospel means nothing. But Christ was raised from the dead is a fact, it is also a fact if you believe in Him, you were also resurrected with Him to a newness of life. The Facts are the Facts.

Question:

2. Can a Believer be Uncrucified with Christ?

This goes hand in hand with Christ's resurrection. Again, the answer seems very obvious. **The answer is No, No, No!**

Many believers don't even know that when they believed the Gospel of Grace, their old man was crucified with Christ.

Romans 6:6 (NASB)

⁶ knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;

Old self in other bible versions are described as [Person we used to be, Old unrenewed self, Old Man]. The person a believer you used to be has been crucified with Christ. Christ's crucifixion is a believer's crucifixion. That old person you used to be is dead! Because of this fact, the body of sin is done away with, and the new resurrected person is no longer a slave to sin. The power of sin is broken in the life of a believer.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (HCSB)

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, [he is] a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come.

Brothers & Sisters – Believers don't have 2 natures like I was taught as a new believer (Good Me & Bad Me). No, believers have one new nature and that is in Christ (New Creation).

You can't go back to the Cross and become your old self again. You may feel like that is the case sometimes in life. But the truth be told, all believers are new creations, and the believer can't be uncrucified with Christ.

You can't be uncrucified, so you can't reverse who you have now become. You can't reverse the salvation you possess, and the new life you have.

You can't be uncrucified!

1 Corinthians 15:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

If Christ wasn't crucified and raised from the dead, the Gospel means nothing. But Christ was crucified and raised from the dead is a fact, it's also a fact if you believe in Him, you were also crucified and resurrected from with Him.

Illustration

A caterpillar eventually forms into a cocoon and what is formed in the cocoon breaks out of the chrysalis shell to become a butterfly. A butterfly can't go back to being a caterpillar. The caterpillar is dead and gone, and the butterfly is what is new. This is similar to what happens to a believer. A believer can't go back and become his old self (old man - caterpillar), because that person has died. A believer is a new person and a new creation in Christ (Butterfly)!

Question:

3. Can a Believer be Indwelt by the Holy Spirit?

The topic of the Holy Spirit gets a little more complicated to understand in how it functions in the life of a believer because many Christians confuse being indwelt with the Holy Spirit versus being filled with the Holy Spirit. Or they read old Covenant passages which say the Holy Spirit coming upon, versus indwells in the New Covenant of Grace.

Old Covenant – David's Prayer

Psalm 51:11 (NASB)

¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

New Covenant - Indwelt

1 Corinthians 3:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are a temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

The root Greek for the word dwell means **at home in**. The Holy Spirit is at home in every believer, because the Holy Spirit dwells in every Believer.

New Covenant - Filled

Ephesians 5:18 (HCSB)

¹⁸ And don't get drunk with wine, which [leads to] reckless actions, but be filled by the Spirit:

The root Greek for filled **means *to be under the influence of, or in the control of.*** Don't be under the influence of alcohol, but under the influence of the Spirit.

What we see here is that a believer has a choice to be filled with the Spirit, or not to be filled with the Spirit. Being filled with the Spirit is yielding to it, and offering oneself to it as one's source of life.

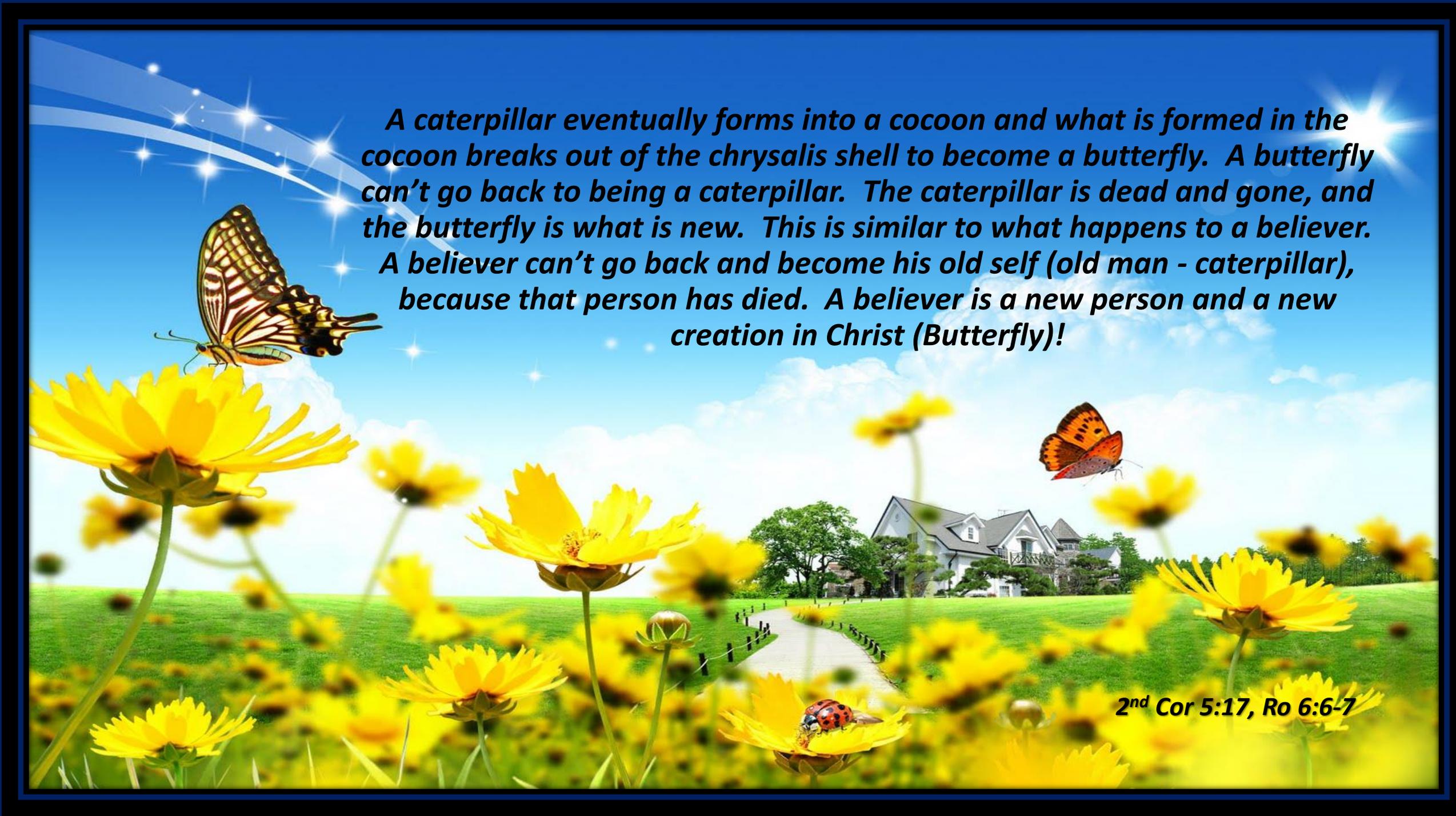
Remember last week's message – Out of Balance [Spirit flows to and thru the Soul which flows thru the Body]. Man is a 3 part being – Spirit/spirit, Soul (mind, will, emotions), and a body. When a man is filled with the Spirit, thru his body the outside world sees the fruits of the Spirit:

Galatians 5:22-23 (HCSB)

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.

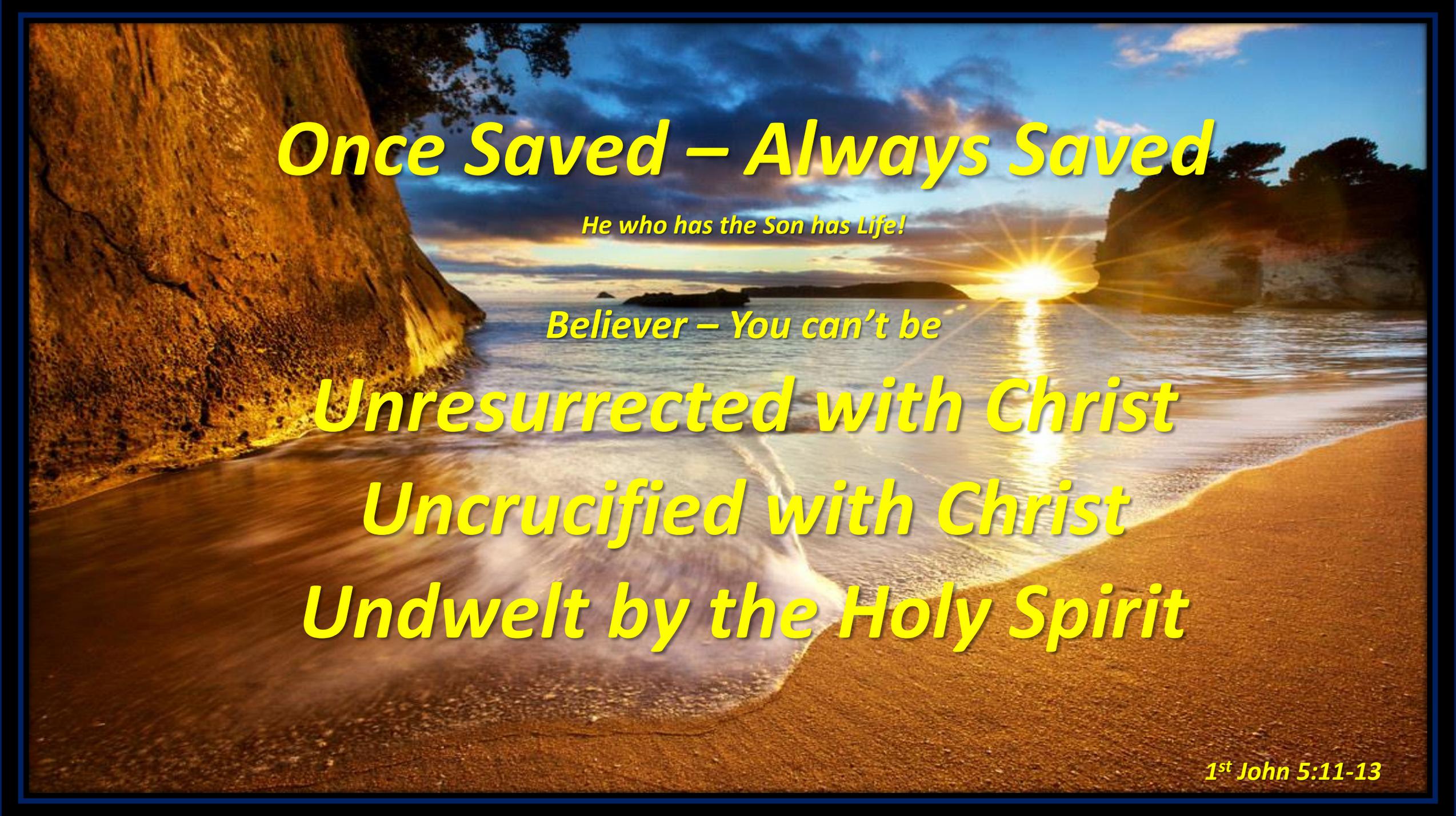
You can't be Undwelt of the Spirit in the New Covenant of Grace!

But you can choose to be filled with the Spirit!

A vibrant scene of yellow daisies in a green field under a blue sky with a butterfly and a ladybug. The image features a large butterfly with orange and black wings on the left, and a smaller orange and black butterfly on the right. A ladybug is visible on a daisy in the foreground. In the background, a white house with a grey roof is visible on a green lawn. The sky is bright blue with white clouds and a sunburst effect in the top right corner. A decorative blue and white graphic element is in the top left corner.

A caterpillar eventually forms into a cocoon and what is formed in the cocoon breaks out of the chrysalis shell to become a butterfly. A butterfly can't go back to being a caterpillar. The caterpillar is dead and gone, and the butterfly is what is new. This is similar to what happens to a believer. A believer can't go back and become his old self (old man - caterpillar), because that person has died. A believer is a new person and a new creation in Christ (Butterfly)!

2nd Cor 5:17, Ro 6:6-7



Once Saved – Always Saved

He who has the Son has Life!

Believer – You can't be

Unresurrected with Christ

Uncrucified with Christ

Undwelt by the Holy Spirit

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring a prominent natural rock arch in the center. The arch is made of reddish-brown sandstone and frames a view of other rock formations in the distance. The ground is sandy and shows some tracks. The sky is clear and light blue. The text "Once Saved – Always Saved" is overlaid in the center in a bold, yellow, italicized font with a black outline.

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