

THE PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

"HAVING AN ANSWER" - ISSUE 5

THE 5TH ARTICLE AGAINST THE REMONSTRANTS

An Explanation of the "Preservation" of the Saints



ARTICLE 1

THE REGENERATE NOT FREE FROM INDWELLING SIN

The doctrine of the perseverance of the saints is a doctrine of the Reformed faith. It is the doctrine that the regenerate are not free from indwelling sin, but that they are preserved from falling away from the faith.

**"...WHOSEVER
COMMITTEH SIN
IS THE SERVANT
OF SIN."
-JOHN 8:34**

1. Who are those who are still "servants" to sin? Jo. 8:24; II Pet. 2:19

2. Who are those who are "servants" of righteousness? Romans 6:16-18

3. How does the Bible explain the war of sin that goes on within a servant of righteousness? Ro. 7:14-25

ARTICLE 2 DAILY SINS OF WEAKNESS

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4. Why is it important to acknowledge our sin before God? I John 1:8

• What excuses do we tend to make for our sin?

5. Distinguish between those who are "risen with Christ" and those who remain "children of disobedience." Col. 3:1-9

• List characteristics of the "new man," a person once changed by God. Col. 3:10-24

• What remains the consequence of sin? Col. 3:25

6. Critics accuse the doctrine of Perseverance of the Saints of allowing the body of Christ to become filled with carnality under "free grace." How does this accusation conflict with what Paul teaches in Philippians 3:12-14?

ARTICLE 3 GOD PRESERVES HIS OWN

The doctrine of the perseverance of the saints is a doctrine of the Reformed faith. It is the doctrine that the regenerate are not free from indwelling sin, but that they are preserved from falling away from the faith.

7. Can you specify the sin of the flesh mentioned in Romans 7:18-20 and contrast it with the sin mentioned in I Corinthians 6:9-12?

• Is there such a thing as "greater sin" or is the description above, "remnants of indwelling sin," accurate?

8. How is God faithful to His elect? I Corinthians 10:13; I Peter 1:5-9

MISCONCEPTIONS

- ♦ Critics of Perseverance of the Saints believe that it will cause the body of Christ to become filled with carnality.
- ♦ Critics think that this doctrine doesn't focus on sanctification, rather only on justification.

"THE REASON WHY A CHILD OF GOD IS ETERNALLY SECURE IS THAT GOD, BY HIS POWER, WILL LOSE NONE OF THOSE WHOM HE HAS PREDESTINED TO SAVE BECAUSE HE FAITHFULLY KEEPS BELIEVERS BY GIVING THEM THE GRACE TO PERSEVERE TO THE END OF THEIR LIFE."

VERSE OF THE WEEK

**"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.
-James 2:17**