

13. (from LSO, Wednesday, March 26, 1997)

Subject: Repeat sin

Dear Dr. Ryrie: Can a person who commits the same sin over and over, tries to stop the sin, and asks God to forgive him, expect His forgiveness? How do you feel about his chances for forgiveness? -- Mike

Dear Mike: ^{Of course one 100%} God says that if we confess our sins He is faithful and righteous to forgive us those sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). There are no limits placed on how many times we can ask forgiveness for the same sin and receive forgiveness for that same sin. Most of us find ourselves repeating some of the same sins often in our lives. When we confess, God promises to forgive us; so use His remedy as often as you need to (even if it is for repeated sin), and receive His promise of forgiveness. It is not a matter of what are our "chances for forgiveness" (as you put it in your question), but of His promise of forgiveness. And God never goes back on His word.

14. (from LSO, Thursday, March 27, 1997)

Subject: Do I have to make Christ *Lord* of my life to be saved?

Dear Dr. Ryrie: Is lordship salvation biblical? I heard recently that you believe it is not. What is the difference between your view of salvation and a "lordship salvation" view? -- Ryan N.

Dear Ryan: Let me ask some questions. What is it that keeps me from heaven and eternal life? Answer: sin. What has been done about my sin? Answer: Jesus died to pay for it. What does the Bible ask me to do in order to have the forgiveness His death paid for? Answer: "To as many as received Him, He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe on His name" (John 1:12). Or "He who hears my word and believes on Him who sent me has [at that moment of believing, not sometime in the future] everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but has passed [at that moment] from death to life" (John 5:24). The lordship salvation view adds to faith the requirement to make Christ lord of your life, or at least be willing to do that. But to add that or any other requirement (like baptism) would contradict the two verses I quoted as well as many others (and many others). Offering to let the Lord control the years of my life is a very important step to take, but that does not save.

15. (from LSO, Friday, March 28, 1997)

Subject: Can I lose my salvation?

Dear Dr. Ryrie: Can a person who has been saved and has Jesus in his heart lose his salvation? -- Cheryl D.

Dear Cheryl: If a person who has received Christ's salvation could lose it, then everything that happened at conversion would have to be reversed. You cannot lose part of eternal life. That would mean, for instance, that the new life you received when you received the Lord as Savior would have to come to an end and die. It would mean that you would have to be expelled from the family of God. It would mean you would have to be severed from the body of Christ to which you were joined when you were saved (1 Cor. 12:13). It would mean your adoption into the family of God would be revoked. Everything you

Gal 4:5

Eph 4:30

in 3