

Title: FOUR "NEVERS" PROMISED TO THE BELIEVER

Text: John 11:23-26

Intro: The word "*never*" means, on no occasion; at no time; not even once; certainly not. "*Never*" implies an impossibility of an occurrence. Today, we shall look at four "nevers" found in the Gospel of John. These are spiritual privileges guaranteed only to God's children. Those who are in Christ have the greatest spiritual assurances now or in eternity –

I. HE SHALL NEVER THIRST (John 4:14)

A. Wells of this world go dry. They are "**broken cisterns**" that cannot hold water (Jer. 2:13).

B. Waters of salvation never run dry. "...**the river of God, which is full of water**" (Psa. 65:9 cf. 46:4).

C. Water always springing up in abundant supply is a type of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; 1 Cor. 12:13).

D. How true it is that the things of this world never fully satisfy. In hell today, people are crying, "*I thirst!*"

II. HE SHALL NEVER HUNGER (John 6:35)

A. As bread or food is completely necessary to satisfy physical hunger, even so Jesus (the bread of life) is the only one who can satisfy the soul.

B. Throughout the history of mankind there had been many food shortages; but this bread (Jesus) is never rationed as it is always sufficient for all.

C. Two simple verbs in v.35 define man's part in salvation; he must **COME** and **BELIEVE** in Jesus.

III. HE SHALL NEVER PERISH (John 10:27-28)

A. "**My sheep**" (Christians) not only believe in Christ but they also follow Him. When Jesus was upon

earth His disciples followed Him everywhere He went. Hence, Christians are called His followers.

B. To “**perish**” means to be destroyed or punished in hell. The believer “**shall never perish**” since Jesus holds him so securely that even Satan cannot surprise or overcome Jesus by force. But that is not all, the Father also holds the believer strongly (**John 10:29**).

C. What an assurance! The believer need not live in fear of the unknown, the future or even eternity.

IV. HE SHALL NEVER DIE (John 11:25-26)

A. It is “**appointed unto man once to die**” (Heb. 9:27) is the first death. When the body is buried, the spirit returns to God who gave it (Gen. 35:18; Jas. 2:26; **Eccl. 12:7**). The soul either goes to heaven (if saved) or hell (if unsaved) (**Mark 8:36-37**).

B. Romans 5:12 tells us that by one man's sin (Adam's), death passed upon all men – physical, spiritual, eternal and the second death. See “**second death**” (**Rev. 21:8; 20:14**; cf. **Matt. 10:28**).

C. “**Shall never see death**” means the second death has no power over the believer (**Rev. 20:6**). At the Rapture, all living believers will be changed and will never see death (**1 Cor. 15:51-52**).

CONCLUSION. Rom. 6:23: "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

The greatest gift of all is eternal life. Do you have it for sure? If not, you can be saved and born again today by believing in Christ and receiving His free offer of the bread and water of life. To be in Christ means to never thirst, never hunger, never perish, and never die the second death!