

Intro:

1. Almost Ready To Be Persuaded.

Acts 17:32-34 (HCSB)

³² When they heard about resurrection of the dead, some began to ridicule him. But others said, “We will hear you about this again.”

³³ So Paul went out from their presence.

³⁴ However, some men joined him and believed, among whom were Dionysius the Areopagite, a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Acts 26:24-32 (HCSB)

²⁴ As he was making his defense this way, Festus exclaimed in a loud voice, “You’re out of your mind, Paul! Too much study is driving you mad!”

²⁵ But Paul replied, “I’m not out of my mind, most excellent Festus. On the contrary, I’m speaking words of truth and good judgment.

²⁶ For the king knows about these matters. It is to him I am actually speaking boldly. For I’m not convinced that any of these things escapes his notice, since this was not done in a corner!

²⁷ King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know you believe.”

²⁸ Then Agrippa said to Paul, “Are you going to persuade me to become a Christian so easily?”

²⁹ “I wish before God,” replied Paul, “that whether easily or with difficulty, not only you but all who listen to me today might become as I am—except for these chains.”

³⁰ So the king, the governor, Bernice, and those sitting with them got up,

³¹ and when they had left they talked with each other and said, “This man is doing nothing that deserves death or chains.”

³² Then Agrippa said to Festus, “This man could have been released if he had not appealed to Caesar.”

2. Almost Right In Your Beliefs.

Acts 18:24-28 (HCSB)

²⁴ A Jew named Apollos, a native Alexandrian, an eloquent man who was powerful in the Scriptures, arrived in Ephesus.

²⁵ This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught the things about Jesus accurately, although he knew only John's baptism.

²⁶ He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. After Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him home and explained the way of God to him more accurately.

²⁷ When he wanted to cross over to Achaia, the brothers wrote to the disciples urging them to welcome him. After he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace.

²⁸ For he vigorously refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating through the Scriptures that Jesus is the Messiah.

3. Almost Receiving The Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:1-7 (HCSB)

¹ While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior regions and came to Ephesus. He found some disciples

² and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"

"No," they told him, "we haven't even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

³ "Then with what [baptism] were you baptized?" he asked them. "With John's baptism," they replied.

⁴ Paul said, "John baptized with a baptism of repentance, telling the people that they should believe in the One who would come after him, that is, in Jesus."

⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began to speak with [other] languages and to prophesy.

⁷ Now there were about 12 men in all.

Romans 8:9-11 (HCSB)

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God lives in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not

belong to Him.

¹⁰ Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

¹¹ And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, then He who raised Christ from the dead will also bring your mortal bodies to life through His Spirit who lives in you.

4. Almost Saved Risks Becoming Hardened, And Ending Up In Hell.

Acts 19:8-10 (HCSB)

⁸ Then he entered the synagogue and spoke boldly over a period of three months, engaging in discussion and trying to persuade them about the things related to the kingdom of God.

⁹ But when some became hardened and would not believe, slandering the Way in front of the crowd, he withdrew from them and met separately with the disciples, conducting discussions every day in the lecture hall of Tyrannus.

¹⁰ And this went on for two years, so that all the inhabitants of the province of Asia, both Jews and Greeks, heard the word of the Lord.

Hebrews 6:4-8 (HCSB)

⁴ For it is impossible to renew to repentance those who were once enlightened, who tasted the heavenly gift, became companions with the Holy Spirit,

⁵ tasted God's good word and the powers of the coming age,

⁶ and who have fallen away, because, to their own harm, they are recrucifying the Son of God and holding Him up to contempt.

⁷ For ground that has drunk the rain that has often fallen on it, and that produces vegetation useful to those it is cultivated for, receives a blessing from God.

⁸ But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is worthless and about to be cursed, and will be burned at the end.

Note: Being Almost Saved Can Appear As Saved Until The Day Of Judgment. Matthew 13:24-30 (HCSB)

²⁴ He presented another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven may be

compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field.

²⁵ But while people were sleeping, his enemy came, sowed weeds among the wheat, and left.

²⁶ When the plants sprouted and produced grain, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ The landowner's slaves came to him and said, 'Master, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Then where did the weeds come from?'

²⁸ " 'An enemy did this!' he told them. " 'So, do you want us to go and gather them up?' the slaves asked him.

²⁹ " 'No,' he said. 'When you gather up the weeds, you might also uproot the wheat with them.

³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At harvest time I'll tell the reapers: Gather the weeds first and tie them in bundles to burn them, but store the wheat in my barn. ' "

Invitation: Today you can go from "Almost Saved" To "Saved Forever!"

Hebrews 7:25 (ESV)

²⁵ Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.