



What Is Made Sure in 2 Peter 1:10 Is Not One's Election but His Escrow Conveyance; Faith's Direction of the Virtue Chorus Results in Divine Good

βέβαιος, *bebaios* - KJV: sure.

25. This word refers to the payment of a legally guaranteed security. The etymology is provided by three sources:

Spicq, Ceslas. *Theological Lexicon of the New Testament*. Translated and edited by James D. Ernest. (Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers, 1994), 1:280-81:

Bebaios—"That on which one can walk," hence "solid, firm, durable, sure, certain." It is often associated with **πιστός / *pistos*** / ["faith"] and **ἀληθής / *alēthēs*** / ["truth"].

Arndt, William F. and F. Wilber Gingrich. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. 2d ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1979), 138:

(The noun) **βεβαίωσις / *bebaiōsis*** / is a "legal technical term for guaranteeing, furnishing security."

Deissmann, G. Adolf. *Bible Studies*. Translated by Alexander Grieve. (Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers, 1988), 104; 106-107:

Βεβαίωσις / *bebaiōsis* / . "The seller was required, in general, to deliver to the buyer the thing sold *without* dispute. In the language of the Attic (legal) process, **Βεβαίωσις / *bebaiōsis*** / thus received the technical meaning of a definite obligation of the seller: the seller did not only make over the thing to the buyer, but assumed the *guarantee* to defend the *validity* of the sale against any possible claims of a third party.

A sale **εἰς βεβαίωσιν / *eis bebaiōsin*** / is a definitive, legally guaranteed sale. **Βεβαιωτής, *bebaiōtēs***: sale-surety.

... in Attic jurisprudence: guarantee in regard to a sale; it is still a technical expression for a legally guaranteed security.

26. One of the words used by Deissmann in his definitions of *bebaiōsis* is "surety" which is defined by:

***Oxford English Dictionary*, s.v. "surety":**

Certainty of an end or result aimed at; certainty of obtaining something.

27. From these definitions we can discern what Peter is saying: The escrow deposit is a legal security whose delivery or conveyance is guaranteed to the believer who fulfills the conditions of the escrow agreement.

28. Therefore, the believer is not challenged to prove his election by means of the seven virtues. He is to make his election a spiritual reality by means of these seven. In fact he is commanded to do so.

2 Peter 1:5 - Now for this very reason, having made every effort, furnish or supply [**orist active imperative of ἐπιχορηγέω, *epichorēgeō***] by means of your faith ...

29. *Epichorēgeō* is a word taken from Classical Greek drama. It refers to the choral director who provided the expenses and the training for the members of the chorus.



30. Faith perception which responds to the teachings of the Word of God is the choral director. The choral director is commanded to supply the seven virtues that follow in the passage.
31. The seven categories of the spiritual advance that form this chorus develop increasing harmony in the believer's soul. Ultimately they build up to the spiritual crescendo of occupation with Christ.
32. The believer who makes this advance can rest assured that the transfer of his escrow account will become a certainty.
33. Consequently, volition must be involved and only the believer is in view in this passage. This is made clear in verse 1 where Peter addresses his epistle to:

2 Peter 1:1b - (NASB) ... those who have received [λαγχανῶ, *lanchanō*: obtained] a faith [πίστις, *pistis*] of the same kind [ἰσότητος, *isotimos*: equally precious to that of ours] as ours.

34. In verse 10 an additional promise is attached to the believer who makes this successful advance. It is introduced by the present active participle of the verb:

ποιέω, *poieo* - "for by doing these things"

present: Retroactive progressive; denotes that which has begun in the past and continues to the present; signifies action in a state of persistence. It refers to consistency in the believer's advance to the stage of spiritual maturity.

active: The sophisticated believer produces the action.

participle: Instrumental; indicates the means by which the action of the main verb is accomplished. The main verb leads off verse 10:

σπουδάζω, *spoudazō*, "be more motivated."

It, too, is an imperative mood. Persistence in utilizing the four spiritual mechanics is the source of motivation expressed by reciprocal love for God.

35. Finally we come to the aorist active subjunctive verb with a double negative of emphatic negation:

πταίω, *ptaiō* - "to stumble" or "go astray"

However, the double negatives emphatically deny this as a possibility. They are the negative conjunctions:

οὐ, *su* + μή, *mē* - "you will never stumble."

36. It is obvious for a person at this level of spiritual advance that this negation does not infer that (1) he will lose his salvation, (2) he will be among the reprobate, or (3) he will fall into the lake of fire. These are the conclusions reached from the Theology of the Mouse:

The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men
Gang aft a'gley (often go astray),
An' lea'e us naught but grief an' pain.
For promised joy!
(Robert Burns, "To a Mouse")

37. Instead, this negation confirms the status of the mature believer who may have confidence that in spiritual maturity he will not become engaged in prolonged excursions in cosmic living.



38. Instead he will consistently use the rebound technique to confess his sins, receive forgiveness of them, and then continue on in his spiritual life.
39. The expanded translation of this verse thus reads this way:
2 Peter 1:10 - (ETL) Therefore, fellow believers, be more motivated to make your efficacious grace and your election to privilege a spiritual reality [experiential sanctification]; for by doing these things that cause more motivation [double column advance], you will never, ever stumble into prolonged carnality.
40. The spiritual reality of escrow conveyance to the winner believer is the subject of the final verse of the paragraph:
2 Peter 1:11 - For in this manner, your entrance into the eternal kingdom [evaluation throne of Christ] of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be richly supplied [conveyance of escrow blessing for eternity at the presentation of the Nike Awards].
41. This passage, badly translated and thus wrongly applied by Bèza, has been used to support the heretical doctrine of limited atonement.
42. This heresy was the subject of continuing debate in England between its development by Theodore Bèza, after he succeeded John Calvin in 1564, to the approval of the *Westminster Confession* in 1648.
43. In the end, Bèza's doctrine of limited atonement found its way into the latter and thus had tremendous influence on Protestant theology in the colonies of America and later in the spiritual culture of the United States.

Bray, Gerald (ed.). "The Westminster Confession of Faith." In *Documents of the English Reformation*. (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1994), 490:

By the decree of God ... some men and angels are predestined unto everlasting life and others foreordained to everlasting death.