2 Peter 2:20-22 - 20 For if after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. 21 For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A dog returns to its own vomit," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire." NASB

Hebrews 6:4-6 - 4 For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God, and put Him to open shame. NASB

John Murray again wisely concludes..... "The Scripture itself, therefore, leads us to the conclusion that it is possible to have a very uplifting, ennobling, reforming and exhilarating experience of the power and truth of the Gospel, to come into such close contact with the supernatural forces which are operative in God’s kingdom of grace that these forces produce effects in us which to human observation are hardly distinguishable from those produced by God’s regenerating and sanctifying grace and yet be not partakers of Christ and heirs of eternal life." It is clear then and therefore that those who “fall away” in a pattern of continual sin and break fellowship with the Church were never truly “born again.” It is apparent to us that many people will confess Christ with their tongues but deny Him with their life. We may have known someone who supposedly believed and followed Christ, but at some point became disillusioned and turned there back on Christ, falling into a life of self-will and sin again. If God’s Spirit has regenerated us and lives within us, we will bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. Good trees bear good fruit and bad trees bear bad fruit. If we have truly believed, there will be a sanctifying power at work in our lives, which will be evident and we will, by God’s good grace, persevere to the end and be saved. We will not shrink back and be destroyed.

Hebrews 10:39 - 39 But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul. NASB

Glorification
Glorification is that final act of salvation by God that brings us into the full capacity to enjoy God forever, in a body that is made immortal and imperishable and no longer subject to the temptation of sin. This will happen at the Second Coming of Christ when all believers of all ages will be raised from the dead, united to their souls eternally, and given glorified bodies like the body that Christ possessed post resurrection. When He is finished with the work of progressive Sanctification, the process of conforming us to His image practically, we shall ultimately take on His image in much fullness and be “like Him” at the
resurrection, on the day of Glory! We call this **glorification**. First let us acknowledge that **Glorification** is an **act of God**.

*Romans 8:29 - 29* For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; 30 and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. NASB

**Glorification** is clearly spoken of when we are said to have a destiny that shall be conformity to the “**image of Christ?**” It is and this is our destiny, we shall be like Him in the end and share in His glory! This is confirmed elsewhere in Paul.

*Philippians 3:20-21* - 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself. NASB

See here in Philippians 3:20 that this glorification is actually ascribed to Jesus Himself as the one who does it. Clearly, Glorification in the New Testament is an act of God. But more than this, it is said to be “**into conformity with the body of His glory!**” Consider that the body we receive will be a **powerful body** of glory, which will be “like Him.”

*1 John 3:2-3* - 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, **when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is.** 3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. NASB

Indeed this was **God’s purpose** in our **predestination** all along, that is that we would ultimately be **glorified** with **Christ** and **made like Him**.

*Romans 8:29 - 29* For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren; NASB

This was **God’s purpose** in foreknowing and predestining us, that our mortal bodies might be **“swallowed up by life,”** and that **eternally and forever.**

*2 Corinthians 5:1-5* - 1 For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, **we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.** 2 For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven; 3 Inasmuch as we, having put it on, shall not be found naked. 4 For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed, but to be clothed, in order that **what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.** 5 Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge. NASB

But consider that this **transformation** that will take place in us changes us into the state of **immortality**, the **inability to die**, as Paul had said, that “**what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.**” Therefore, these glorified bodies are given “**eternal life”** and will **never die.**

*Romans 8:11 - 11* But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, **He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.** NASB
John 11:25-26 - 5 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this? "NASB

Let us see that it is obvious, although many more Scriptures could be quoted to describe our life in Christ as eternal. But consider also when this will happen in Scripture. This Glorification is said to happen at the Second Coming, which is also the time of resurrection of all of God’s faithful people of all ages. This transformation is said to happen “when He appears.”

1 John 3:2-3 - 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. NASB

And this of course happens when Christ gathers His elect people together to Himself at His Coming.

Mark 13:24-27 - 24 "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers that are in the heavens will be shaken. 26 "And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. 27 "And then He will send forth the angels, and will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth, to the farthest end of heaven. NASB

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 - 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord. NASB

See here that all the “dead in Christ” will rise at His Coming, and then all living Christians will be “raptured” or “caught up” into to the air to meet them, and will thus “always be with the Lord.” It is clearly implied that if we are caught up and glorified with bodies of life that will always be with the Lord, that we will never again be subject to sin and death, having finally realized the ultimate hope of our calling, that is to be glorified eternally and with Him forever! Consider the words of 1 Corinthians 15:50-54 as it describes this transformation of glory!

1 Corinthians 15:50-54 - 50 Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. 53 For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory." NASB

See here that the Christian awaits a final day when Christ will bring us into a state of eternal glory where “death will be swallowed up in victory!”