

## Assurance of the Soul

### Security of the Believer

#### Int.

1. Aim: To show what assurance of the soul means and why we can have it.
2. 1 Jn. 5:13 NKJV "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God."
3. In an adult Bible Class the members were asked: "If you were to die now, would you be saved?"
  - a. They had three possible answers: Yes, No, or Not sure.
  - b. The results 62.5% yes but 37.5% Not sure None put NO
  - c. This kind of survey has been done in other congregations and the figures are about the same. About 4 out of 10 Christians are not sure of their own salvation.
4. Some Christians get so discouraged and feel so inadequate that getting to heaven seems like an impossible task.
  - a. Heaven as their goal seems unreachable and impossible to many.
  - b. These weak Christians tend to 'throw in the towel' and to give up trying.
  - c. They take the attitude that they are wasting their time, their energy, and their efforts in trying to attain an unattainable goal.
5. Two Extreme views on security of the soul
  - a. Once saved always saved --- doctrine of once in grace always in grace, our soul is eternally safe, it cannot be lost.
  - b. No Security for the child of God -- one is never safe or secure

6. In answering the "once saved always saved" doctrine it is possible that we may have left the impression of insecurity of the soul and that we cannot know we are saved. This is not healthy spiritually and can lead to many problems.
7. As a Christian we need security and belief that we can and will be saved when we die!!!  
The Bible Teaches this security.

## Discussion

### I. SCRIPTURES THAT TEACH ASSURANCE and SECURITY OF THE SOUL

- A. 2 Tim. 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."
  1. Fear -- "fearfulness" ASV - cowardice & timidity - not used in a good sense
    - a. Rev. 21:8 - "Fearful" = afraid they lose life or property if they serve God.
    - b. Contrasted with the spirit of fear and love
      - (1) 1 John 4:18. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."
      - (2) Fear = terror, dread of chastisement for disobedience
  2. Power
    - a. Not to work miracles but ability to overcome obstacles
    - b. Courage and resolution
  3. Love
    - a. John 14:15 1 John 4:19
    - b. Love is incentive to all obedience
  4. Sound mind
    - a. ASV - discipline - sobering - Self control
    - b. Judgment & clear understanding
    - c. God has given the spirit of these things not of fear

B. **2 Tim. 1:12** NKJV "For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day."

1. I know the one in whom I have placed my confidence
2. Believed = indicates an action in the past that continues and endures through the present time
3. Paul is speaking of a personal relationship that he has entered into and which will continue.
4. Paul's faith had been tested and he was not in doubt as to the outcome of his life.
5. If he had died at that time he knew that he would be saved.
6. He had committed the salvation of his soul unto God!!
7. Phil. 1:20-24 - to live is Christ, to die is gain

C. **Rom. 8:35-39** "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36. As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

1. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
  - a. Love he has for us or Love we have for Him
  - b. Here it means the love we have for Him

2. Evils without
  - a. Tribulation, famine, sword
  - b. If a man loves Christ as he should none of these will destroy his love
3. More than conquerors
4. I am persuaded
  - a. No power or force can make us quit loving God
  - b. If he quits he does it of his own accord
5. Rom. 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

D. **1 Jn. 5:11-13** NKJV "And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God."

1. Eternal life is in His Son - Jn. 10:10 "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have [it] more abundantly."
2. It is a promise
  - a. "...in the world to come eternal life" Mk. 10:29-30
  - b. "...in hope of eternal life" Tit 1:2
  - c. We do not hope for that which we already have
  - d. 1 Jn. 2:25. "And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life."
3. Those who keep on believing may have eternal life.

4. The believer may cease to believe - forsake him who has life
  - a. 1 Tim. 5:12 -- cast off their first faith
  - b. 2 Tim. 2:16,17 -- increase more to ungodliness
5. We know we have eternal life! - What must we do to have this knowledge?

## **II. WE MUST WALK IN THE LIGHT**

A. 1 John 1:5-10 - v. 7

1. Walk in the light
  - a. Continuing walk
  - b. Fellowship with God and with Brethren
2. Blood cleanseth
  - a. Cleanseth - a constant process, depends on walking in light
  - b. "from all sin" - any kind of sin
  - c. We are cleansed from defilement of sin and condemnation
3. Confess our sins
  - a. Humble acknowledgment of wrong - essential to forgiveness
  - b. Keep on confessing
    - (1) Before the Father
    - (2) Before others - Jas. 5:16 "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
  - c. God is Faithful and will cleanse us from our sins

B. 1 John 2:1-2 NKJV "My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world."

1. That ye sin not - to keep from participation in sin
2. Advocate
  - a. Lawyer or attorney to represent one in court
  - b. Jesus represents us in the court of heaven, pleading our cause and advocating our cause before the bar of God's divine justice
  - c. Righteous pleads for the unrighteous
3. Propitiation
  - a. Appease, render favorable, conciliate
  - b. He renders God favorable toward us
  - c. Brings God and man together
  - d. He reconciles us to God enabling us to be at peace with Him

### **III. CAN WE QUIT SINNING ?**

- A. No, We all sin - 1 Jn. 1:8 NKJV -- But we cannot willfully practice sin! "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."
- B. 1 John 3:9 NKJV "Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God."
  1. Born of God
    - a. Begotten of God
    - b. Children of God

2. Doth not commit sin

- a. Does not keep on doing sin
- b. It is not a persistent, continuous life of willful sin

3. How can he not sin?

- a. Seed is word of God - Lk. 8:11
- b. Remaineth in him - God's seed remains in him
  - (1) Made its home in the heart of the one begotten
  - (2) Col. 3:16 "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."
- c. Seed, word of God, forbids all sin
- d. Ps. 119:11 "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

## 4. Does not means we cannot sin!

- a. We do sin - 1 Jn 1:8, 10
- b. We cannot continue to live a life of sin for he has the word of God in him which prohibits all sin
- c. Illustration - No trespassing sign - it means you could, but you should not because you will be punished.
- d. Rom 6:1-2 "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2. God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"

## CONCLUSION

1. If you were to die today would you be saved? As a Christian you should be able to say, yes. Should be 100% yes and 0% not sure.
2. Let us have this confidence and assurance that the Bible teaches that we can have. We can be assured that the Lord keeps us safe and secure if we surrender ourselves to His will. Keeping safe or secure depends upon each individual.
3. Security, peace of mind, contentment, happiness will be ours.
4. 2 Tim. 4:6-8 "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 8. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."
5. It is well with my soul.
6. The blood of Christ will continue to cleanse us as we walk in the light.
7. Rom. 8:1 "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."