

## ARE YOU 100% SURE THAT YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE?

- Can a believer in Christ know with certainty that he/she has eternal life? (1 John 5:9-13)

### A. Does God Want You to Have the Absolute Assurance of Eternal Salvation?

1. The absolute assurance of eternal salvation is based on \_\_\_\_\_, never upon your good works, faithfulness, fruit, etc. (1 Cor. 15:3-4; Eph. 2:8-10; Rom. 11:6; Gal. 2:21; 2 Timothy 2:13)
2. The absolute assurance of eternal salvation is based on the unfailing and sure \_\_\_\_\_. (John 1:12-13, 3:16, 5:24, 6:35-40, 47; 10:27-30, 11:25-26)

### B. Who Are Some Examples of Absolute Assurance?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Job 19:25-27)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 23:6)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 10:20; John 6:67-69)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 1:21-23)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 3:20-21)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ (Col. 3:1-4)
7. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor. 6:19-20)

### C. What is the Difference Between the Assurance of Salvation vs Eternal Security?

1. **ETERNAL SECURITY:** This is the biblical doctrine that one who has been genuinely saved by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone shall never be in danger of God's condemnation or loss of their salvation, but is kept forever saved by God's grace and power. This is objective scriptural truth as eternal salvation can never be lost.
2. **ASSURANCE OF SALVATION:** This is the subjective reality that a believer KNOWS 100% that he/she has been saved by God's grace. This is the birthright of every believer, whether they have thought through whether they could lose salvation or not. God wants every believer to know this indefinitely beyond a doubt though one's assurance of salvation can be lost.

### D. Why Do People Lack the Absolute Assurance of Eternal Salvation?

1. because they are \_\_\_\_\_. (John 5:39-40, 45; Matt. 7:21-23)
2. because they go by their \_\_\_\_\_ instead of \_\_\_\_\_ in God's promises. (1 John 5:13)
3. because they fail to understand the \_\_\_\_\_ of salvation. (1 Cor. 2:14-3:4)
4. because they seek assurance by their \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ instead of by Christ's finished work. (1 Cor. 3:11-15; John 15:1-7)

5. because they succumb to the \_\_\_\_\_. (Eph. 6:10-11, 17)
6. because they fail to grow and get established due to \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Pet. 1:8-10)
7. because they think that they need to know the \_\_\_\_\_ of their salvation. (2 Timothy 1:12)
8. because they reject \_\_\_\_\_ or fall prey to \_\_\_\_\_, either Calvinism or Arminianism. (2 Cor. 13:5; 1 John)

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? -- unless indeed you are disqualified.

- Modern Lordship Salvation confusion such as ...
- What is the problem with each of these statements?
  - a) Is Paul doubting their salvation? \_\_\_\_ Paul calls these Corinthian Christians “brethren” \_\_\_\_ plus x in 1 & 2 Corinthians, even before and after 13:5 – see 2 Cor. 8:1 & 13:11
  - b) What is the context of this statement? (2 Cor. 10-13) Paul is defending his apostleship amidst the accusations of false teachers.
  - c) Why are they being told to “examine yourselves ...”?
- The book of 1 John: Tests of Salvation / Life or Conditions & Evidences of Fellowship with God?
  - a) Who are the recipients of 1 John and what is the primary purpose of 1 John? Unlike the Gospel of John where the purpose statement is at the back of the book (John 20:30-31) with an evangelistic purpose toward unbelievers, the epistle of 1 John is written to \_\_\_\_\_ to explain to them truths related to having \_\_\_\_\_. Purpose: 1 John 1:3-7 - that which we have seen and heard {Jesus Christ} we declare to you, that you also **may have fellowship with us**; and truly our **fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ**. 4 **And these things we write to you that your joy may be full**. 5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 6 If **we** say that we have **fellowship with Him**, and walk in darkness, **we** lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if **we** walk in the light as He is in the light, **we** have **fellowship with one another**, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses **us** from all sin.
  - b) Observe the “we” in 1 John 1 which includes the apostle John (a believer in Christ)
  - c) Other indicators - 2:1-2, 7, 2:12-14, 2:18, 2:21, 2:25, 2:28, 3:1-2, 18, 4:1, 7, 11, 19
  - d) What are some things to keep in mind when interpreting 1 John?
    - 1) The “tests of life” view of 1 John is exegetically wrong and destroys absolute assurance to all believers, especially the humble, sensitive, and analytical believer.
    - 2) The word “abide” is found 24x in the 5 chapters of 1 John.
    - 3) 1 John underscores that obedience to God’s Word and love for other believers will indicate whether the believer is abiding in Christ or not (2:3ff).
    - 4) The issue of assurance of eternal life is addressed to these believers for apart from it, how can a believer enjoy fellowship with God? (1 John 5:13)
- Are you 100% sure that you have eternal life? If not, why not settle this right now?