

EPISTLE OF 1 JOHN
JESUS CHRIST, OUR ASSURANCE
1 JOHN 2:1-14

Introduction

Let me remind you that in Chapter 1 we saw that since "*God is light,*" true Biblical fellowship with Christ is found by our walking "*in the light*" !
(1 John 1:5-7)

Let me also remind you that in Chapter 1 we saw that **there is NO WAY that this is talking about our being sinlessly perfect in our walk because that IS NOT POSSIBLE!** *(1 John 1:8-10)*

SO, IF WE SIN HOW IS IT POSSIBLE FOR US AS BELIEVERS TO HAVE ASSURANCE OF OUR SALVATION?

I. WE CAN HAVE ASSURANCE BECAUSE OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR ADVOCATE!

Last time we were in this Epistle, we looked at **Jesus Christ, Our Advocate** and we saw **His role in Advocating on our behalf!**
(1 John 2:1-2)

A. God Does Not Give Permission For His Children To Sin!
(2:1)

B. God Has A Plan To Keep Us From Practicing Sin! *(1:7)*
(It involves walking in the light as Jesus is in the light)

1. We Know It Involves Our Walk In The Word of God! *Psalm 119:105 "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."*

2. We Know It Involves Our Walk In The Spirit!
Galatians 5:16 – This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

3. We Know It Involves Our Walk In Obedience!
There is are some principles we find in the Word of God regarding this:

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a) Light Obeyed Brings More Light!
(Romans 1:16-17)

Philippians 1:9-10 9 *And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;* 10 *That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;*

b) Light Disobeyed Brings Darkness!

1) True For The Unbeliever!
(Romans 1:18-21)

2) True For The Believer! *(1 John 1:6)*

*God Does Not Give Permission For His Children To Sin...
God Has A Plan To Keep Us From Practicing Sin...
Walk In The Word...The Spirit...Obedience.*

C. God Has Made Provision For Us If We Sin! *(vs. 2:1; 1:9)*

1. God Has Provided An Advocate To Plead Our Case When We Sin! *(2:1)* We saw where "*Advocate*" is elsewhere translated "*Comforter.*" Jesus Christ, the Righteous (and He is the Righteousness for ALL that are in Him! He is OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS!)

Romans 10:4 "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."

He represents us before God as our Advocate interceding on our behalf!

Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

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2. God Has Provided *Propitiation* For Our Sins! (2:2)
Our sins separated us from a holy and unchanging God!

But Christ through His sacrificial blood has satisfied Holy God for the sins of every believing sinner!
(God is not pacified, but satisfied!)

There are other New Testament passages where the same or similar Greek words are translated "*merciful*," "*propitiation*," and "*mercyseat*."

*Luke 18:13 – “And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be **merciful** to me a sinner.*

*Hebrews 2:17 – “Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a **merciful** and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.”*

*Romans 3:25 – “Whom God hath set forth to be a **propitiation** through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.”*

*1 John 4:10 “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the **propitiation** for our sins.”*

*Hebrews 9:5 – “And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the **mercyseat**; of which we cannot now speak particularly.”*

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II. WE CAN HAVE ASSURANCE AS WE OBEY CHRIST! (2:3-6)

- A. Obedience Is The Test Of Fellowship! (vs. 3)**
John 14:15 – “If ye love me, keep my commandments.”
- B. Disobedience Is The Proof Of Non-Fellowship! (vs. 4)**
- C. Assurance Comes Through Obedience! (vs. 3, 5)**
- D. Christ Is The Perfect Example To Follow.**
(vs. 6; Cf. 1 Peter 2:21-25)

WE CAN HAVE ASSURANCE BECAUSE OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR ADVOCATE...WE CAN HAVE ASSURANCE AS WE OBEY CHRIST...

III. WE CAN HAVE ASSURANCE AS OUR LOVE FOR OTHERS IS PERFECTED! (2:7-11)

- A. Love For Others Is A Demonstration Of Our Fellowship With The LORD! (2:7-8; 2 John 5-6)**
Deuteronomy 6:5– “And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.”

Leviticus 19:18 – ...thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself...

John 13:34-35 – “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”

Romans 13:8-10.

Love For Others Is A Demonstration Of Our Fellowship With The LORD!

- B. Hatred For Our Brother Is The Denial Of Fellowship. (2:9-11)**

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John 12:35 – “Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth.”

Proverbs 4:19 – “The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.”

Ephesians 4:32 – “And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.”

Colossians 3:13 – “Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.”

Loving a brother in Christ produces wonderful results.

(a) It causes us not to think evil.

1 Corinthians 13:5 – “Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil.”

(b) It covers a multitude of sins.

1 Peter 4:8 – “And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.”

(c) It causes us to abide in the light. (2:10)

(d) It causes us to keep others from stumbling. (2:10)

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IV. WE CAN HAVE MORE ASSURANCE AS WE MATURE MORE IN CHRIST! (2:12-14)

A. The Children Are Those Whose Sins Have Been Forgiven For Christ's Name Sake And Have Known The Father! (2:12a, 13c)

B. The Young Men Have Grown To A Degree Of Maturity Whereby They Have Become Spiritually Strong, The Word Of God Abides In Them, And They Have Overcome The Wicked One! (2:13b, 14b)

C. The Fathers Are Those Who Are Older In Their Spiritual Knowledge, Growth, And Experience. (2:13a, 14a)

It just stands to reason that the more mature we are in “*the faith*”, the more assurance we are going to have in our life!

Conclusion

Where are you tonight with regard to the assurance of your salvation?

Well, I can tell you that if you aren't walking in the light as Christ is in the light, you are going to be full of doubts and not have much assurance!

And, if you aren't walking in love for others as you should, then your assurance in Christ and fellowship in Christ aren't going to be in your life as Christ intended!

If that is where you are:

Get back into the Word of God and have your walk in the Word!

Walk in the Spirit so that you don't fulfill the lusts of the flesh!

Walk in obedience to Christ! Trust and Obey!

Walk in love as Christ has also loved us!

Then, as you mature in your faith, your assurance will grow with you more and more!