

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

(2 Peter 1:3-11)

One of the greatest hymns of all time includes these words, "Blessed assurance Jesus is mine..." This song has blessed God's children for many years. How great it is for us to sing with confidence knowing we belong to Him. Yet, it seems that many believers struggle with the assurance of their salvation.

As important as it is to "live to give," and to "persist in prayer," it is equally important to know that your sins are forgiven and your salvation is secured forever.

FOUR STATEMENTS HELPING US TO DISCOVER THE CERTAINITY OF SALVATION.

The reality is you will never grow much without this assurance from God.

I. **There Are Many Reasons Why A Believer May Struggle With Assurance.**

- A. Some sit under harsh, demanding preaching of the law upholding a high standard of...
- B. Some struggle with past sins, thinking they are too sinful to be saved.
- C. Some embrace a deficient Gospel, having wrong ideas about our part...Arminian.
- D. Some can't remember the date and time of their conversion...
- E. Some sense the strong pull of the sinful nature within and think they must not be saved.
- F. Some experience deep trials and think God has left them, not seeing His hand in the trials.
- G. Some do not know and obey the Word, and thus fail to walk in the Spirit, Who gives...
- H. Some lack assurance because they willfully sin. Purity and assurance go hand-in-hand.

II. **The Blessings We Receive From Salvation Assurance Are Abundant.**

- A. Assurance causes the heart to live at the highest level of joy. (1 John 1:4) "joy...full"
- B. Such assurance causes us to seek God's purposes above everything else. "The Lord's prayer"
- C. Assurance fills your heart with praise and gratitude.
- D. Assurance strengthens the soul against temptations and trials. (Eph 6:16f) "helmet of salvation"
- E. Assurance calms the soul with perfect peace and rest in the midst of life's storms. (Hebs 6:19)
- F. Assurance enables believers to wait patiently upon God's perfect timing for needed mercy.
- H. Assurance purifies the heart. (1 John 3:2-3) "He that has this hope...purifies himself..."

III. **Peter Directs Us To Have This Assurance By Making Our Calling Sure. (1:3-7)**

- A. He begins by reminding us that through God's power we have been given everything we need. (3)
 - 1. For "life"...this is our salvation. It is eternal life...life without end.
 - 2. For "godliness"...this is our sanctification, when God makes us like Himself. "God-like"

