



EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

NOTES

Introduction

When a person becomes a Child of God, there are certain truths that God wants him to know. One of the most important of these truths for a new babe in Christ has to do with assurance of salvation.

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

(1 John 5:13)



In the Greek, there are two words for **know**:

- **Ginosko**—to come to know (progressive knowledge which enlarges and grows as time passes).
- **Oida** —full knowledge (complete and cannot be improved upon; perfect or fullness of knowledge).

Oida is the Greek word used in 1 John 5:13. It means that we have the full knowledge and the full assurance that we **have** eternal life through Jesus Christ. Both W.E. Vine and Kenneth S. Wuest bring out the distinction between these words in their New Testament Greek Word Studies.

Definition of Assurance

Assurance is the believer's complete conviction or guarantee that through the finished work of Christ upon the cross which he has received by faith, he now has eternal life and will be eternally kept by God.

Facts Concerning Assurance

- God wants us to **know** that we have eternal life.
- It is available to **every believer**.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

(John 5:24)



- It **requires belief in Jesus Christ.**

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.
(1 John 5:11-12)

- We have eternal life and shall **never perish.**

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.
(John 10:28)

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

(Romans 8:1) +

- **No one can take us** from God's hand.

My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.
(John 10:29)

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 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.
(Romans 8:38-39)

- Inheritance is **incorruptible** and **undefiled, reserved** in Heaven for us.

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

(1 Peter 1:2-5) +

- We have been **sealed by the Holy Spirit** until our redemption.

In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

(Ephesians 1:11-14)

- The indwelling Holy Spirit witnesses with our own spirit that we are children of God and **joint heirs with Christ**.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

(Romans 8:16-17)

- Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life—**those who believe in Him will never die**.

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

(John 11:25-26) **+**

Basis of Assurance

Unchangeable Truths

Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

(Hebrews 6:17-20) **+**

Unconditional Promises

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(John 3:16)



Completeness of Atonement

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

(Hebrews 9:12-14)



Righteousness of Christ

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

(1 Corinthians 1:30)



Inner Witness of the Spirit

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

(Romans 8:16-17)




Life and Sonship

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

(1 John 5:11-12)



But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

(John 1:12) 

Doesn't Assurance of Salvation Encourage a Person to Sin? No!


- Love of God is the highest form of motivation.
- God still disciplines wayward Christians—sometimes severely.

And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

(Hebrews 12:5-8)

- Obedience motivated by fear will eventually destroy itself.
- Sin prevents a Christian from discovering God's best for his life. Therefore, most Christians who seek God's will, will resist sin.
- A man's accountability at the Judgment Seat of Christ and loss of rewards are deterrents to sin.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

(2 Corinthians 5:10) 

What Happens When a Person Sins?



- My fellowship with God and man is effected.

When I choose to live in sin I have no desire to spend time with God or Godly people. My sin and shame make me avoid both, even though the writer of Hebrews reminds us:

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

(Hebrews 4:16) +

My salvation and relationship are never endangered—only my fellowship.

David lost the **joy** of salvation after his sin against God—but not his salvation.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

(Psalms 51:12) +

- Saul remained God's anointed one despite all his failure.

And David said unto him, How wast thou not afraid to stretch forth thine hand to destroy the LORD'S anointed?

(2 Samuel 1:14) +

- The rewards which a man wins for faithful service are endangered.

A man's salvation is **not** his reward since the Bible teaches that it is a **gift of God**.

God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

(Hebrews 11:6)

- If a person's works do not stand the test of fire, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved.

Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

(1 Corinthians 3:13-15) +

- Salvation is a gift of God—not of works.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

(Ephesians 2:8-9)



Importance of Teaching

- It gives the young Christian a better grasp of:

The **LOVE** of God

The **GRACE** of God

The **MERCY** of God

The **FORGIVENESS** of God

- Unless a person has proper understanding of this doctrine, it is very difficult for him to grow to maturity in Christ since he is constantly going back to re-establish the foundation of his faith.

Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit. For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

(Hebrews 5:11-6:6)

