

NEED SOME REASSURING?

Romans 8:28-39

Introduction: There are many who believe that they can actually lose their salvation and preach and teach that belief to others causing insecurity and questions about whether one was ever saved in the first place as well as not knowing what it takes to lose one's salvation. Then there are those who are not sure if they were saved in the first place and thus constantly question their salvation. Either of these two situations causes a person to constantly lack assurance of their salvation and thus not able to live in confidence and at peace. Here are some facts that can bring assurance:

I. SOME REASONS WHY PEOPLE LACK ASSURANCE ABOUT THEIR SALVATION

- 1. People often lack assurance because they cannot remember or point to the specific time when they accepted Christ.**
 - The question one needs to ask him/herself is "do I **now** really trust in Jesus Christ and what He has done, is doing and will do for me."
- 2. People often lack assurance because they question the "procedure" they went through when they accepted Christ.**
 - If Jesus was accepted privately, quietly, then is a public profession also necessary to "complete" the salvation process?"
 - Sadly and wrongly some have been told that and thus confusion as to when did salvation actually happen if it even happened.
- 3. People often lack assurance because of struggles they have with certain sins.**
 - They wonder why they still have sin problems, if they have really been saved, therefore something must be still missing.
- 4. The main reason behind a lack of assurance is not understanding the scriptures and the lack of faith in the finished work of Jesus.**
 - One must take the Word of God and stand on it without question and to believe that Jesus doesn't need any help in either saving a person or keeping that person saved.
- 5. People often lack assurance because they have erroneously been taught that they must constantly do good works to prove and ensure their salvation.**
 - Works have nothing to do with being saved but works happen because one has been saved.

II. THE VERY BASICS FOR ASSURANCE

- 1. The Word of God:**
 - Eternal life (John 3:36; 1 John 5:11-13)
 - Forgiveness of all sin (Acts 10:43; Colossians 2:13)
 - Freedom from condemnation (John 5:24; Romans 8:1)
 - Justification (declared righteous by God (Romans 5:1; 4:1-6; 4:25)
 - Salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9)

- A child of God by faith (John 1:12; Romans 8:14-17)

2. The Work of Christ:

- Salvation is not by man's works or merit (Romans 4:1-7, Ephesians 2:8-9, Titus 3:5-7)
- Salvation is solely by Christ's person and work as a gift of God.
(1 John 5:5-12, Acts 4:12; Ephesians 2:8-9; Philippians 3:8-9)

3. The Witness of the Holy Spirit:

- The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth (John 14:16-17; 15:26; 16:8-13; 1 John 4:6)
- The Holy Spirit is called an "anointing" (1 John 2:20,27)
- The Holy Spirit opens the Word of God (Acts 1:2, 4-5)
- The Holy Spirit opens the Word of God to one's heart (Acts 16:14)
- The Holy Spirit takes the things of Christ and gives one understanding.
(1 Corinthians 2:12-16; Ephesians 3:15-19)
- The Holy Spirit assures one's heart through the Word of God that one is a child of God.
(Romans 8:15-16; 1 John 5:7-11)

CONCLUSION:

- 1. One must draw his/her assurance from faith in the facts of Scripture and not from one's feelings. (Fact - Faith - Feeling)**
- 2. One needs to draw his/her assurance from faith in the facts of Scripture and not from one's works. (1 Corinthians 3:1-4; 3:3-4; 1:2-9)**
- 3. The believer stands in God's sight faultless and perfect because God sees that believer through Jesus Christ.**
- 4. The believer will be in heaven because of what Jesus did, but accountable reward-wise for what he/she did with the life and gifts God gave him/her.**
- 5. Assurance of salvation is something God wants every one of His children to have.**
 - **Salvation is God's idea and God's working and man cannot help in any way.**
 - **When a person is able to trust God to do what God wants to do and can do, then assurance of salvation will come.**
 - **Seems that it is far wiser to trust God than to listen to what somebody else says.**