

Are You Sure You're Saved

(1 John 5:13)

- Introduction:
1. Are you certain that if you died right now, you'd be saved and heaven would be your home?
 2. Ills. Of conversations I've had with faithful Christians.
 3. My aim in this lesson is to remove any false assurance of salvation one might have and reinforce assurance to those who should be finding peace of mind in it.

I. The Problem Explained And How Some Deal With It

- A. Some doubt because they struggle with sin. How can I have assurance when...
 1. I continue to make mistakes.
 2. I don't even know that I know all the mistakes I've made.
 3. Must I die with a prayer on my lips?
 4. What if Jesus returns before I get a chance to confess my sin?
- B. Some say that a Christian's sins, from idolatry to murder, will not damn his soul.
- C. Others say that God won't allow death to "sneak up" on a sinning Christian.
- D. Still others believe that every sin must be known and confessed or they will be denied entrance into Heaven.

II. Assurance Does Not Come From...

- A. Feelings (Proverbs 14:12; Jeremiah 17:9).
- B. A perfect knowledge of God's word (2 Peter 3:18; 16).
- C. A perfect obedience to God's word (Romans 3:9-10, 23; 1 John 1:10).
- D. Tipping the scales in our favor by countering our sins with good works (Matthew 19: 16-22; Ephesians 2:8-9).

III. Assurance Comes From...

- A. Being in Christ (Ephesians 1; 2 Timothy 2:10).
 1. We get into Christ through obedience to the gospel (Galatians 3:27).
- B. Walking in the light (1 John 1:7-9).
 1. Walking in the light does not mean "sinlessness."
 2. Provision is made for "secret" or unknown sins (Psalm 19:12).

- Conclusion:
1. Friends, if you are in Jesus; trying your best to please him; possessing a humble spirit that repents when you occasionally stumble...an abundant entrance into heaven will be yours (2 Peter 1:10-11).
 2. However, if you are not in Jesus, or if you are, and you're not committed to pleasing him, then you too have assurance, but not of heaven (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9).