

CAN I LOSE MY SALVATION?

ASSURANCE

I. SCRIPTURES

- A. Jn 20:31 and 1 John 5:13
- B. 2 Timothy 1:12 and 4:6-8
- C. Romans 8:15-16
- D. 2 Pet 1:10-11

II. ASSURANCE DEFINED

- A. The personal feeling of confidence that you are saved
- B. Assurance and security different:
 - 1. Security is the FACT you are saved
 - 2. Assurance is the FEELING you are saved
- C. True assurance = both saved and confident (Paul)
- D. False assurance = confident but not really saved (Mt 7/Lk 18)

III. REASONS FOR UNCERTAINTY

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|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A. Feelings | F. Guild complex/performance focus |
| B. Prayerless | G. Fake faith? Not "correct" |
| C. Ignorant of God | H. Arrogant to be "sure" |
| D. Sin struggles | I. Can't pinpoint a time |
| E. Comparing ourselves | J. Not ever confessing sin |

IV. PROBLEMS UNCERTAINTY CREATES

- A. No growth, persistent immaturity
- B. Legalistic, performance focus
- C. Guilt complex
- D. Judgmental - projecting our faults on others, hyper-critical of others because we are so critical of ourselves and insecure
- E. Anxiety, no peace, insecure
- F. Afraid of God, yet no fear of God

BIBLICAL BASIS FOR ASSURANCE:

JUSTIN

1. Faith in Christ's FINISHED work (John 19; 1 John 2:12; 5:13; Jn 20:31)
2. Focus on our position in Christ, not our condition in Christ (Rom 5:1; 8:1)
3. Don't obsess over your fruit, but look for it (Jn 15:1-7; Eph 2:10; Acts 26:20)

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4. Focus on the future, eschatology (Rom 7:25; Jn 14:1-3; 2 Cor 5:5-8; 2 Tim 4:8; 1 Pet 4:7).
5. Tested faith: tried and proven true (1 Pet 1:6-9; 4:1-6; Rom 8:15-17)
6. Fear of God, but not afraid of God (Rom 8:15-17)

JUSTIN

7. Demand/desire sound teaching and won't put up with false teaching (2 Tim 4:1-4; 1 Pet 2:1-2..... The "Opposite" Test?)
8. Obedience (1 John 2:5-6)
9. Pray: confess your sins and ask specifically for assurance (1 Jn 1:9; Mt 7:7-8; Jn 14:13-14)

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10. Inner witness of the Holy Spirit (Rom 8:15-16)
11. Read the Word
12. Evangelize