

=BIBLE DOCTRINES=

Lesson 5

Assurance of Salvation

AIM: to lead each of my pupils to know that he is saved.

POINT OF CONTACT: Ask the pupils how many know that they are saved and are sure that they are born again. Then ask some of them who raised their hands how they know that they are born again.

I. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS THAT WE MAY KNOW.

1. We may know that we have been born of God. I John 2:29b, "...ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him."
2. We know that God dwells in us. I John 3:24, "...And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us."
3. We know that we are of God. I John 5:19a, "And we know that we are of God."
4. We know that God hears our prayers. I John 5:15, "And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."
5. We know that we can know Christ. II Timothy 1:12c, "...for I know whom I have believed." I John 2:3, "And hereby we do know that we know him..."
6. We know that Christ will come again, and that we shall see Him and be like Him. I John 3:2, "...but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."
7. We know that we have received the Holy Spirit. I Corinthians 6:19, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you...?"
8. We know that we are rich. II Corinthians 8:9, "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."
9. We know that all things work together for good. Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."
10. We can know that we will rise from the dead. John 11:24, "Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."
11. We know that we have eternal life. I John 5:13, "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..."

The main thing about the above items is that we can know we are saved. "Assurance" is the intellectual and spiritual certainty that one belongs to God; that he possesses salvation. The believer knows he is saved, so that doubt is excluded and he is able to walk with confidence. Paul gave his triumphant testimony when he said in II Timothy 1:12, "...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

II. HOW MAY WE KNOW THAT WE ARE SAVED?

1. The promise test. The unconditional and universal promise of God Almighty is given to us. John 6:37 says, "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." We may know we are saved because the Bible says so. In fact, the only real assurance of salvation is to believe God's promises.
2. The assurance test. The Holy Spirit tells us and assures us that we are saved. Romans 8:16, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."
3. The world test. I John 2:15, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." When a person is born again, he has a love for Christ and the things of God, and he loses his love for the world. This is a proof of salvation.
4. The love test. I John 3:14, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." Apply this test to yourself.
5. The giving test. I John 3:17, "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"
6. The hate test. I John 4:20, "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"

7. The sin test. I John 3:9, “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin...” The word “sin” here is in the linear tense, which means that a person who loves God will not continue in the same sin. A Christian may stumble into sin, but he will get up because he is not happy in sin. We ought to take this test.
8. The commandment test. I John 2:3, “And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.” The words, “keep His commandments,” means “do His will.” Do we want to do what God wants us to do? Is there a desire to do His will and not our own? This is an excellent test concerning assurance of salvation.
9. The walk test. I John 2:6, “He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.” Do we walk in the ways of Christ? To be sure, we will stray from the path—but do we get back in it? Is there a desire to walk in His ways?
10. The Word test. I John 2:5, “But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.” Do we love the Word of God?
11. The experience test. Remember that salvation is a “time and place proposition.” It is a pretty risky thing for a person not to remember his salvation experience.

III. WHAT TO DO IF ASSURANCE IS MISSING. Come to God just as if you had never been saved. Realize that you are a sinner and that sinners are lost forever, that Jesus Christ has paid the price for your sin, and that if you will come to Him in faith, accepting Him into your life as your personal Saviour, as your sacrifice, as your substitute for sin, you can be His child. Ask His forgiveness, believe in His plan, and trust Him for salvation. After you do this, come forward in the services, present yourself for believer’s baptism, and continue to walk with the Lord.

SCRAMBLED WORDS

What you can know.

1. We can know that we have been N R O B F O D G O.
2. We can know that God hears our Y S A P E R R.
3. We can know that I R S T H C abides in us.
4. We can know that Christ will E O C M I N A G A.
5. We can know that we shall be like E S S U J H C S I R T.
6. We can know that we have received the Y L O H R P I T S I.
7. We can know that we are C R I H.
8. We can know that all things work T O T R E G E H for good.

FILL IN THE BLANKS IN THESE SCRIPTURES:

1. I John 2:15, “Love not the _____, neither the things that are in the _____. If any man love the _____, the love of the Father is not in him.”
2. I John 3:14a, “We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we _____ the brethren.”
3. I John 2:3, “And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his _____.”
4. I John 3:17, “But whoso hath this world’s _____, and seeth his brother have _____, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the _____ of God in him?”
5. I John 5:13, “These things have I written unto you that _____ on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have _____.”
6. II Timothy 1:12b, “...for I know _____ I have _____.”

MEMORY VERSE: I John 3:14a, “We know that we have passed from death unto life...”