



## Eternal security....Can we be sure?

July 3, 2017

**1 JOHN 5:11-13 NKJV – (11)** And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. **(12)** He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. **(13)** These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue* to believe in the name of the Son of God.

Our loving heavenly Father wants us to know with certainty that we have eternal life through His Son Jesus Christ. What assurances do we have that we are permanently secure?

- God's love. One reason that we can be sure of unending salvation is our heavenly Father's **unconditional love**. At the cross, He demonstrated just how much we mean to Him. He sent His Son to die so that we might have eternal life. (**1 John 4:9-10**).
- Christ's life and death. Because Jesus was without sin, He qualified to serve as our substitute and take our place on the cross. By dying for us, He paid for all our sins and finished the work necessary to secure our salvation (**John 19:30**).
- Jesus' promise. We have our Lord's assurance that we will spend eternity with Him. He promised that we can never be separated from Him and that no one can snatch us from His hand (**John 10:28**). He has gone ahead to prepare a place for us and will return to bring us there (**John 14:2-3**).
- The Indwelling Holy Spirit. Another assurance of eternal security is the presence of God's Spirit within each believer. The Holy Spirit acts as a seal, guaranteeing that we belong to the Lord and serving as a pledge of our future in heaven with Him (**2 Cor. 1:21-22**). The Apostle James said, "Faith without works is dead." Once indwelt by the Holy Spirit, "Sanctification" is in effect. We serve as God expects not because we have gotten into God, but because God has gotten into us.

The Bible is filled with God's promises that those who have received Jesus Christ as Savior will spend eternity with Him. If you struggle with doubt, meditate on the Scriptures, and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you into scriptural understanding about your salvation.

**REMEMBER:** Whoever **believes** in God's Son has eternal life. He is all you need. You do not need to wait for eternal life because it begins the moment you believe (Faith). You do not need to work for it because it is already yours. You do not need to worry because eternal life has been given to you by God himself and it is guaranteed!

Some people hope they will receive eternal life. John says we can know we have it. Our certainty is based God's promise that He has given us eternal life through His son. This is true whether we feel close to God or far away from Him. Eternal life is not based on feelings but on facts. And the facts are in His word.

Eternal security is often called, "Once Saved, Always Saved" (OSAS). It is a point on which the vast majority of Bible believers agree. To deny this doctrine is to deny important teachings of the Bible. **The Bible boldly declares that anyone who comes to Christ can never be lost.** You have done nothing to earn salvation; you can do nothing to lose it. Consider just a few of many verses of scripture that deal with this doctrine:

- In **John 3**, we learn of the necessity of being born again. Obviously, we cannot be unborn. Also, eternal life is promised as a present possession in that Jesus says we "have" eternal life;
- In **John 10:28**, Jesus reminds us that we cannot be plucked out of His hand;
- **Romans 8:35-38** tell us that nothing can separate us from the love of God;
- **Hebrews 10** reminds us of the one-for-all sacrifice.

It is evident by these and an overabundance of other scriptural principles that a child of God cannot be lost and is eternally secured. They can never lose their salvation. A child of God cannot go to Hell – only those not saved.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

JUDE 24

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

I believe in the eternal security of the believer and the insecurity of the make believer.