# Lesson # 18 **THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**

We will cover three affirmations on this: (1) Assurance is based on the promises in God’s Word; (2) Assurance must not be based on our works; and (3) Assurance is an inseparable part of saving faith.

In short, I believe that salvation is assured but that it can also be lost.

**I. What does salvation Mean?**

Salvation is used many times in the Bible to mean deliverance, we also use it to mean to have eternal life. Or the deliverance of the penalty of sin which is death.

**II. Assurance is based on the Promises in God’s Word**,

A. Assurance is founded on ***God’s Word****.*

*1 John 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. NIV*

B. Assurance of salvation is based on the ***testimony*** *of God*

1 John 5:8-10 9 We accept man's testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. NIV

C. Assurance of salvation is in **Christ**

1 John 5:11-12 11 And this is the testimony: 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. NIV

D. Assurance of salvation is in the **power** of God and Christ.

John 10:28-30 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one." NIV

**III. Assurance Must Not Be Based on Our Works**

A. Works did not get you saved.

Eph 2:8-9 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. NIV

B. Works cannot keep you saved.

Rom 11:6 And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace. NIV

C. Works are **rewardable** endeavors, the pay they gain is a matter of obligation. Works can play no decisive role whatsoever.

*Rom 4:4-5 4 Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. 5 However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. NIV*

*James 2:18 (NKJV) 18 But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.*

1. Works can never be the real grounds on which we are assured of our salvation? Good works is a **product** of our salvation.

**IV. Assurance Is an Inseparable Part of Saving Faith.**

A. What is ***saving***faith?

It is that faith that has a particular message to believe. And that message *is* distinctive—indeed, it is even radical, and unique.

B. The woman who was washing the feet of Christ with her hair and here tears was doing a good work but that is not what saved her.

*Luke 7:50-8:1 50 Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."*

1. The bottom line, therefore, is exactly what John states in his First Epistle:

*1 John 5:1-2 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. NKJV*

2. There are *no* **exceptions** to this! "Whoever" is the pivotal word here. Belief that Jesus is the Christ—that is, the One who assures the believer of future resurrection and of eternal life—is *saving* belief.

3. A faith which has as its content "Jesus is the Christ" (in the sense of John) is *saving* faith. But to believe this is to *know* that I am saved. Assurance, therefore, is inseparable from—and part of the essence of—saving faith.

4. The individual believer who knows that Jesus *is* the Christ, knows also that he himself *is* "born of God" It’s as simple as that.

**a. The one who believes that Jesus is the Christ possesses divine, unending life.**

5. No one can **believe** this message without being saved

John 6:47 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. NKJV

6. And no one can believe this message without being ***sure***that he is saved!

John 5:24-25 24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. NKJV

The message, in fact, is God’s true, reliable, and unchanging "witness" to us. It is "the testimony that God has given of His Son"

1 John 5:10-12 10 Anyone who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in his heart. Anyone who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. 11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

**V. The author, John, simply did not believe eternal life could be lost. In his Gospel he makes this unmistakably clear. I DO BELIEVE THAT ONE CAN LOSE THEIR** SALVATION – SEE SERMON NOTES ON SUBJECT

A. The two most basic items needed to sustain life are **bread** and **water**.

1. Jesus is that special **Water**

*John 4:13-14 13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." NIV*

# 2. Jesus is that special **Bread**

*John 6:35-40 35 Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. 36 But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. 38 For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. 39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. 40 For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day." NIV*

*John 6:49-51 50 But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. 51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." NIV*

3. The power over death is **resurrection** and Jesus is that resurrection.

*John 11:25-26 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; 26 and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" NIV*

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