

SPIRITUAL SECURITY

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TEXT:

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him” (1 John 2:1-5).

PURPOSE: To assure our hearts concerning salvation.

INTRODUCTION:

1) After becoming a Christian some people still say, “I will never say that I am saved, until I get to heaven.”

- (1) Have you ever heard a statement like that?
- (2) Perhaps you have, or else have made a similar statement.

2) There are two extremes when it comes to the topic of the security of the believer.

- (1) “A believer can never so sin as to be eternally lost.”

A. **Answer** - “Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace” (Galatians 5:4).

B. “For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire” (2Peter 2:20-22).

C. “For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins” (Hebrews 10:26, read rest of chapter 10).

(2) Yet, others would, in essence, say “once saved - never saved!!” (always living in doubt, never sure).

3) It is important to be saved and important to know that we are saved.

4) We sing “Blessed Assurance”

- (1) Can we sing it in faith?
- (2) Yes we can, notice the following verses.

(3) "That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;" (Colossians 2:2).

(4) "And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:" (Hebrews 6:11).

5) The word "**know**" is used 27 times in the little Book of 1 John.

6) What can we know?

I. WE CAN KNOW THE TRUTH.

1) "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

2) God gave us His truth that we might know it.

(1) "Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ" (Ephesians 3:4).

(2) "I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth" (1John 2:21).

(3) "My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things"(1John 3:18-20).

3) We can know that we have obeyed the truth.

(1) "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:"(Romans 8:16).

(2) We know when we obey our parents that we will not be punished! We should have this same confidence in God,

(3) "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him" (Psalm 103:13).

II. WE CAN KNOW THAT WE ARE IN CHRIST.

1) It has always been important to be in the God appointed place at the God appointed time. (Examples– the ark, house with blood on lintel, etc. Did they know where they were?)

2) In order to be saved (secure), we must be in Christ.

(1) "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

(2) "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

(3) "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ"(Ephesians 1:3).

3) God tells us how to get "into Christ."

(1) "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:3-4).

(2) "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:26-27).

III. WE CAN KNOW THAT WE ARE IN FELLOWSHIP WITH THE FATHER.

1) But you may say " I am not perfect, not sinless."

2) The truth is - all of us sin (there is a difference between perfect and faithful).

3) John addresses this problem

(1) Read 1John 1:5-10, and 1John 2:1-5; (we can't continue in sin).

(2) "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in (1)sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (Romans 6:1-2).

4) God is our Father - "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not" (1John 3:1). Read also Matthew 7:7-11.

IV. WE CAN KNOW THAT WE HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

1) "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. 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, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (1John 5:11-13).

2) We have it in hope (prospect).

(1) "In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2).

(2) "But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life" (Mark 10:30).

III. HOW TO HAVE THIS BLESSED ASSURANCE (SPIRITUAL SECURITY)?

1) It is conditional – “I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit” (John 15:1-2).

2) Believe in God’s love for you, “And ye murmured in your tents, and said, Because the LORD hated us, he hath brought us forth out of the land of Egypt, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us” (Deuteronomy 1:27). Read Romans 5:6-9.

3) Become a Christian by hearing, believing, repenting, confessing and being baptized for the remission of sins.

4) Feed on the Word of God. – “But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God”, (Matthew 4:4). “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby” (1Peter 2:2).

5) Attend services faithfully – “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching” (Hebrews 10:25).

6) Be involved in the work (be active).

7) God tells how to keep from falling (how to have spiritual security) Read 2Peter 1:5-11.

CONCLUSION:

1) We can have spiritual security. “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any [man] pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave [them] me, is greater than all; and no [man] is able to pluck [them] out of my Father’s hand. I and [my] Father are one” (John 10:27-30).

2) “But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they” (Acts 15:11).

3) “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens” (2Corinthians 5:1).