

Assurance

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.

What is Assurance?

Assurance means that the Christian not only possesses salvation, but that he also knows what he possesses—he is assured of this salvation. ***It refers to the believer's full confidence and conviction that the penalty of his sins has been paid and that heaven has been secured as his eternal destiny by Christ's death and resurrection.*** This full confidence is a key element in living a victorious Christian life. When one is fully assured that he/she has been reconciled to God, he/she possesses a freedom and confidence to live a life devoted to God, motivated out of gratitude for what God has done. A fully assured Christian is one who understands the love that God has for them, and is seeking to experience that love in greater measure. Indeed assurance is a wonderful gift and blessing of God the He imparts to those who have true faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 John 4:16-19 - 16 And so **we know and rely on the love God has for us.** God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. 17 In this way, love is made complete among us **so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment,** because in this world we are like him. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us.

The Basis of Assurance

Assurance is not based on our own subjective experience, but rather on the rock solid promises in the Word of God concerning the work of Christ. Because Christ has secured eternal salvation for us, we can be fully assured. ***We do not have confidence in our ability to please God, rather that Christ Jesus has pleased the Father and provided a perfect and complete salvation for us, according to the will of the Father.*** Our practical experience waivers with our personal obedience to God. This can cause us to feel insecure about God's love to us. But God's love to us is firmly secured by blood of Christ which was poured out at Calvary's cross. Christ has met the perfect standard of righteousness required by God, and we have laid hold of this grace (unmerited favor), by faith. We have faith in the work that Christ has done to redeem us back from sin, and pay the just penalty for our sins. The price has been paid in full and we have been set free from sin and death! Dear reader, you can have confidence in you relationship to God through Jesus Christ!

Rom 5:8-9-But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since **we have now been justified by his blood,** how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him

Heb 9:13-15 - The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the **blood of Christ,** who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, **cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death,** so that we may serve the living God! For this reason Christ is the **mediator** of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance-- now that **he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins** committed under the first covenant.

The Perfect Work of Christ

Praise God! We have a mediator, a Priest, one who will go between us and God! We have a lamb to sacrifice to cover our sins! Dear friends, if God was willing to sacrifice His own Son for you, won't he be willing to grant you heaven? Yes He will, and more than

that, we have become joint heirs with Christ in His eternal inheritance! All that Christ has is now ours as well. ***This is because the work of Christ in securing our salvation is perfect.*** He is a perfect Priest, the total and complete sacrifice, and His atoning work of redemption is the full price of all the sins of the world, paid in full. Christ was sent by the Father, to do His will, and to completely provide a way for you and I to be saved. His work is therefore perfectly in accordance with the standard of God. The death of Christ perfectly accomplished the will of God in redemption.

Eph 1:7-8 In him **we have redemption through his blood**, the forgiveness of sins, **in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us** with all wisdom and understanding.

Heb 10:14 - 4 because **by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever** those who are being made holy. NIV

Heb 10:19-22 - 19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by **a new and living way opened for us** through the curtain, that is, his body, 21 and since **we have a great priest over the house of God**, 22 **let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith**, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. NIV

Col 1:21-23 - Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by **Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation**-- if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.

I Jn 2:1-2 - My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense-- Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the **atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.**

Salvation Secured

Jesus has secured salvation for all who will repent of their sins and obey the gospel! He is the way to heaven. He is the doorway to God's presence because He is the only One who has fully met the requirements of God's Holy justice. Because He has met these requirements, our salvation has been eternally secured. It is complete, it is a done deal, and it shall never be annulled. Thousands of years before Christ was born the prophets announced this great salvation. God has further promised through Christ and the Apostles that this salvation has been secured for all who will repent and believe. Listen to the wonderful promises of our security in Christ.

John 10:27-30 - 27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 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

Romans 8:35-39 - 35 **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written:

"For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, **nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Isa 53:4-5 - Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he **was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities**; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.