

Faith Assured

2 Peter 1:5-11

I. Introduction:

1. Assurance of salvation causes the heart to live at the highest level of joy

1 John 1:4

And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

I. Introduction:

2. Assurance of salvation fills the heart with gratitude and praise.

Psalms 71:14-15

But I will hope continually, And will praise You yet more and more. My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness *And* Your salvation all the day, For I do not know *their* limits.

I. Introduction:

3. Assurance of salvation compels the believer to obedience.

Psalms 119:166

LORD, I hope for Your salvation, And I do Your commandments.

I. Introduction:

4. Assurance of salvation purifies the heart.

1 John 3:2-3

Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

II. God's Gift of Salvation - Assurance

- The phrase "applying all diligence" implies to make a strong effort to provide something that is necessary.

Ephesians 4:15

...we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ,

1 Peter 2:2

like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

1 Peter 1:14-16

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

2 Corinthians 7:1

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

II. God's Gift of Salvation - Assurance

A. Assurance Pursued:

1. Moral Excellence or virtue – the "energy" it takes to exercise our faith or to fulfill the calling that Christ has called us to.

II. God's Gift of Salvation - Assurance

A. Assurance Pursued:

2. Knowledge - Practical knowledge that allows the believer to discern between right and wrong during the course of this life.

II. God's Gift of Salvation - Assurance

A. Assurance Pursued:

- 3. Self-control – the ability to control one's own desires or cravings.**

II. God's Gift of Salvation - Assurance

A. Assurance Pursued:

- 4. Perseverance –to remain strong during hardship or difficult times.**

II. God's Gift of Salvation - Assurance

A. Assurance Pursued:

- 5. Godliness – having a genuine reverence for God and His character.**

II. God's Gift of Salvation - Assurance

A. Assurance Pursued:

- 6. Brotherly Kindness – is the demonstration of God's affection towards other.**

II. God's Gift of Salvation - Assurance

A. Assurance Pursued:

- 7. Love – this is the self-sacrificial love that was demonstrated to us by our Lord.**

John MacArthur...

The only legitimate basis for assurance has nothing to do with a past event when one "made a decision," but is based on the reality of present trust in Christ's atoning work, as evidenced by one's present pattern of faith, obedience, righteousness, and love for the Lord.

III. Application to Assurance

- 1. Do I have a Present Trust in Christ for Salvation?**
- 2. Is There Evidence of a Regenerating Work of the Holy Spirit in My Heart?**
- 3. Do I See a Long-Term Pattern of Growth in My Christian Life?**

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