

## How can I know if I am saved?

The issue of salvation is on the one hand very simple but on the other hand fairly complex. Over the next several lessons, various issues regarding the question of salvation and what it means and to whom it applies will be addressed. As we continue looking at the issue of salvation, we will turn next that the issue of assurance of salvation.

1. How does a person become saved?

Romans **10:8-11**

John **6:44-45**

John **6:37**

Philippians **2:12-13**

John **14:6**

A person becomes saved when that person hears the word of God (The Bible), believes the word of God and entrusts his eternal position to the Lord Jesus Christ. Salvation is a work of God from beginning to end. It is the Son of God (Jesus) who willingly offered up Himself as a sacrifice (John 10:17-18) for sin. It is the spirit that brings us to an understanding of our own sinful state and the gracious gift of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. It is Father who accepts Jesus' offering on our behalf and protects us and preserves us in the state of salvation. Notice that no one can get to the Father without going through Jesus and that no one can get to Jesus without the Father bringing him to Jesus. It is the Spirit that brings a person, by the power of the Father, to the Son. This is what is known by the term "Irresistible grace". We cannot help but obey the work of the Spirit of God in our lives.

2. What assurance do I have of salvation?

Ephesians **1:13-14**

Romans **8:34-39**

John **6:37-38**

Romans **8:28-32**

Notice that when we believe and trust, we are sealed with the Holy Spirit of God "until the redemption". This means that the by the Holy Spirit it assured and guaranteed by God. We are also told that everyone who goes to Jesus by faith will never ever be cast out of His presence. No matter what we do or say, we are guaranteed His salvation. We are also told that there is nothing that could ever happen to remove God's love from us when it is founded on Christ. With Christ, the payment for sin has been made. There is no further payment for sin that is necessary.

3. Why do I continue to question whether or not I am saved?

Romans **7:18-25**

Galatians **4:8-11**

Psalms **22:1-2**

Although we are eternally secure in Christ, we will continue to struggle with sin and shame and doubt. This is NOT a symptom that we do not belong to God through faith in Jesus Christ but it is the reality of living in a fallen and sin cursed world. As we dwell on the things of our past and even of our present, will naturally have difficulties in understanding how we can be saved when such behaviors are or were present in our lives. Sometimes we just don't feel like God is in our midst. We may often feel like our prayers are not being heard because our struggles or situation in

life is not changing. We will often see that we seem to keep doing the same things we were doing before we trusted Christ. By nature we think that we need to do something in order to be worthy of salvation. In some form we must earn it. All of these things are the natural reaction of living in a fallen world. We need to remember that we cannot live a life that would earn us the right to salvation because salvation is the work of God and not of man.

4. What should I do if I am questioning my salvation?

1 Timothy **1:15-16**

Hebrews **13:5-6**

Hebrews **10:24-25**

Proverbs **3:5-6**

Revelation **2:4-5**

As we struggle with the truthfulness of God's salvation program through faith in Jesus Christ, we need to remember that it is Jesus who came to save sinners. Since I am a sinner, therefore Jesus came to save me. We need to trust what God has said about us, about Jesus and about the Godhead. Salvation is not according to our plan and ideas but according to God's plan and ideas. We need to remember, that even if it feels like God has left us and abandoned us, He has not. It just feels that way. Even though we may not feel like it, we need to begin again and do that things that we first did when we were first saved. Read the scriptures, continue in fellowship with God's people, continue to communicate to yourself to trust God and trust in His plan.