

# Assurance of Salvation

HOW TO REALLY KNOW IF YOU ARE SAVED

**Thus, by their fruit  
you will recognize them.  
Matthew 7:20**

## HOW CAN I BE SURE I'M SAVED?

Once you begin your new life in Christ, there will be evidences in your life that will assure you of your connection with God. 1 John was written so that believers can rest assured of their salvation (1 John 5:13). What evidences do these verses say you will see in your life?

### Believers listen to the truth:

1 John 4:6 <sup>6</sup>We are from God, and whoever knows God **listens to us**; but whoever is not from God does not **listen to us**.

### Believers confess their sins:

1 John 1:8-10 <sup>8</sup>If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we **confess** our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

### Believers acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord

1 John 2:22-23 <sup>22</sup>Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist—he denies the Father and the Son. <sup>23</sup>No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever **acknowledges** the Son has the Father also.

1 John 4:2-3 <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that **acknowledges** that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>but every spirit that does not **acknowledge** Jesus is not from God.

1 John 4:15 <sup>15</sup>If anyone **acknowledges** that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.

1 John 5:11-12 <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

### Believers obey his commands:

1 John 1:6-7 <sup>6</sup>If we claim to have fellowship with him yet **walk in the darkness**, we lie and do not live by the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

1 John 2:3-4 <sup>3</sup>We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands. <sup>4</sup>The man who says, "I know him," but does not do **what he commands** is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1 John 2:29 <sup>29</sup>If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who **does what is right** has been born of him.

1 John 3:24a <sup>24</sup>Those who **obey his commands** live in him, and he in them.

### Believers don't continue in habitual sin:

1 John 3:3 <sup>3</sup>Everyone who has this hope in him **purifies himself**, just as he is pure.

1 John 3:6 <sup>6</sup>No one who lives in him **keeps on sinning**. No one **who continues to sin** has either seen him or known him.

1 John 3:9 <sup>9</sup>No one who is born of God will **continue to sin**, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot **go on sinning**, because he has been born of God.

1 John 5:18 <sup>18</sup>We know that anyone born of God does not **continue to sin**

### Believers have a Godly love for others:

1 John 2:9-11 <sup>9</sup>Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. <sup>10</sup>Whoever **loves his brother** lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble.

1 John 3:14-15 <sup>14</sup>We know that we have passed from death to life, because we **love our brothers**. Anyone who does not **love** remains in death. <sup>15</sup>Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.

1 John 3:18-19 <sup>18</sup>Dear children, let us not **love** with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. <sup>19</sup>This then is how we know that we belong to the truth

1 John 4:8 <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not **love** does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:16 <sup>16</sup>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.

1 John 4:20 <sup>20</sup>If anyone says, "**I love God**," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not **love** his brother, whom he has seen, cannot **love** God, whom he has not seen.

### Believers don't love the world:

1 John 2:15-16 <sup>15</sup>Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup>For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world.

### Believers remain in the faith:

1 John 2:19 <sup>19</sup>They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

1 John 2:24 <sup>24</sup>See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you will remain in the Son and in the Father.

### Believers know that God's Spirit lives in them:

1 John 3:24b <sup>24</sup>And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the **Spirit he gave us**.

1 John 4:13 <sup>13</sup>We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has **given us of his Spirit**.

## CAN I LOSE MY SALVATION?

### Can any person, thing or action separate you from God?

Romans 8:35-39 <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>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.

John 10:27-29 <sup>27</sup>My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; **no one can snatch them out of my hand.** <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

### Can you lose salvation by sinning after you have put your faith in Christ?

John 5:24 "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.

Romans 8:1-2 <sup>1</sup>Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup>because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

Heb. 10:26-27 <sup>26</sup>If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, <sup>27</sup>but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

Once you put your faith in Christ, you have a new position in life. Even though you still sin, you are forgiven...no matter what the sin.

### What about those who say they believed but have not lived for Christ since?

- Believers are those who have more than an intellectual belief, they obey Christ's commands...

Acts 26:20 I preached that they should repent and turn to God and **prove** their repentance **by their deeds.**

James 2:14 What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but **has no deeds**? Can such faith save him?

James 2:24 You see that a person is justified by **what he does** and not by faith alone.

Matthew 7:21 Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who **does** the will of my Father who is in heaven.

John 14:15 If you love me, you will **obey what I command.**

John 15:10 If you **obey my commands**, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

Heb. 5:9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who **obey** him

- Believers are those who continue in the faith... (John 15:6; Heb. 2:1, 3:12, 6:4-12; Rev. 2:26-27)

Hebrews 3:6 But Christ is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, **if we hold on to** our courage and the hope of which we boast.

Colossians 1:21-23 <sup>21</sup>Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. <sup>22</sup>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-- <sup>23</sup>**if you continue in your faith**, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

- Those who fall away were never really believers... (Jn. 6:66; 2 Pet. 2:20-22; 1 Cor. 15:2; Heb. 3:6, 3:4; Titus 1:16)

Heb. 10:38-39 <sup>38</sup>But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." <sup>39</sup>But we are not of those who **shrink back and are destroyed**, but of those who believe and are saved.

1 John 2:18-19 <sup>18</sup>Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. <sup>19</sup>They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; **but their going showed that none of them belonged** to us. (see also: John 6:66; 2 Peter 2:20-22)

Matthew 13:19-23 (Parable of the Sower) <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. <sup>21</sup>But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. <sup>22</sup>The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

The question is, "Did they ever really believe in the first place?" Faith in Jesus is not just knowing about Him or understanding Him intellectually. Biblical faith is believing with your whole heart to the point that you live out your life by obeying God's commands. We can spot a Christian by observing a life characterized by obedience to Christ.

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