

Assurance of Salvation  
Part 110a

APPLYING WHAT WE'VE  
LEARNED:

Applicable to all... as an  
expression of love.

We've learned many things  
from the Bible about salvation  
and evidence of salvation.



God gave us these things for a reason!

**A reason? YES!!!**

- NOT so we can win a "Bible trivia" game!
- Rather, because our lives depend on it!
  - So do our friends' lives... and our enemies' lives.

THE APOSTLE JOHN SUMMARIZES IT...

I write this to you who believe in the Son of God,  
so that you may know you have eternal life.\*

1 John 5:13 (NLT)

\* God does not leave us guessing about this eternally important matter!

Today's Focus =  
"Application and Love"

**1** **FIRST:** To self. (So that we won't be deceived.)

**2** **SECOND:** To others (i.e., the unsaved).  
(We must warn, or we will be judged.)

---

**3** **THIRD:** With "newborns." (A special situation.)  
(Those who have begun to grow in salvation,  
but haven't yet reached maturity.)

**1** **FIRST:** Apply these things  
to yourself. **1**

- If you don't, then you are nothing more than a hypocrite.
- What Jesus said to the religious leaders of his day will apply to YOU:

"Woe to you, ... you hypocrites!"  
Matthew 23:13, 15, 23, 25, 27, 29 (NIV)

"How can you escape being condemned to hell? "  
Matthew 23:33b (GW)

**Scripture commands you  
to test yourself!**

(So make sure while you can!)

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in  
the faith. **Test yourselves.**  
Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that  
Jesus Christ is in you?  
—**unless indeed you fail to meet the test!**  
(2 Corinthians 13:5, ESV)

## 2 ONLY THEN: Apply these 2 things to others.

- The characteristics that **guarantee salvation** (or lack of it) are what matters.
  - The characteristics that go along with salvation cannot exist in an unsaved person.
- Characteristics that prove **nothing** (such as religious activities) ... well, they prove nothing!

Scripture gives us *many* examples of people\* warning others about sin.

**WARNING**

... we have already told you and **warned** you.

1 Thes. 4:6b (NIV)

I **warn** you ... that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Galatians 5:21b (NIV)



\* (They warned, because they wanted to obey God!)



## Is this "judging"?

- You are not inventing judgments against them.
- You are warning them about the judgment that God has already given, ... as well as the opportunity for them to escape that judgment.



If you **refuse** to make them aware of this opportunity to escape judgment, **YOU** are guilty of sin.

## As Christ's ambassadors (his representatives), YOU HAVE A JOB TO DO!

We are Christ's **ambassadors**, and God is using us to speak to you.

We urge you, as though Christ himself were here pleading with you, "Be reconciled to God!"

2 Cor. 5:20 (NLT)

- **Your assignment** is to proclaim God's message to the world – the judgment warnings, as well as the offer of salvation from judgment.

Scripture warns us that we are guilty if we refuse to warn others.

[If] you do not warn him ... **I will hold you accountable for his blood.**

Ezekiel 3:18b (NIV; see also v. 20)

PAUL'S EXAMPLE OF HOW TO NOT BE GUILTY:

Therefore, I declare to you today that **I am innocent of the blood of all men.** For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.

Acts 20:26-27 (NIV)

It's the WICKED who do not want to be warned.

**They may even accuse you of "judging"!**

- This is because they hate the light.

People who do what is wrong hate the light and don't come to the light. They don't want their actions to be exposed.

John 3:20 (GW)

- If we love the light, we won't suppress the light.

Yes, God does offer forgiveness to the wicked! \*

**BUT:**

- **They need to be told about it**, which includes being made aware of their sin.
- **They must accept the free offer** of forgiveness; and then they must repent and follow Jesus.

\* ("Wicked" = all who have not repented of their sin).

If the wicked refuse to respond in repentance, judgment will come.

- If we warn them, we won't share in the guilt.



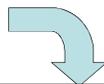
Old Testament Israel learned that judgment would come.

- God gave us their example as a **warning**.

All these events happened to them as examples for us. They were written down to warn us, who live at the time when this age is drawing to a close.

1 Cor. 10:11 (NLT)

Their example:



(IF YOU ARE UNREPENTANT) YOU SHOULD LEARN FROM O.T. ISRAEL!

God's people give you warnings, because God has pity on you.

If you reject God's compassion...

**The Lord**, the God of their fathers, sent word to them through his messengers again and again, because he had pity on his people [Israel] and on his dwelling place.

**But they** mocked God's messengers, despised his words and scoffed at his prophets until the wrath of the Lord was aroused against his people and there was no remedy.

2 Chron. 36:15-16 (NIV)

**3** Patience with "newborns" **3**  
who haven't grown much  
in the faith

- **Those who haven't grown much:**  
They might not have much "salvation evidence." As they grow, it will become more obvious.
- **Continued "non-growth":**  
This is reason for questioning their claim to be "born again."  
(**God** said that growth will occur. If growth doesn't occur, that doesn't change the truthfulness of what God said.)

**1**  
**2**  
**3**

ALL 3 OF THESE ARE AN  
EXPRESSION OF LOVE!

**1**  
**2**  
**3**



Dealing first with one's own sins

is an expression of **love for GOD**.



Warning others and being patient

is an expression of **love for NEIGHBOR**.

**LOVE IS NOT PASSIVE:**

- Love isn't silent about the truth; it doesn't close its eyes to sin and injustice.

**LOVE IS ACTIVE:**

- Love is SEEN by what we DO and by what we SAY.

- Love is SEEN by what we DO.
  - A willingness to do what is *right*.

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with *actions* and in truth [= integrity].  
1 John 3:18 (NIV)

- Love is SEEN by what we SAY.
  - A willingness to say what is *truthful*.

[Love] rejoices with the *truth*.  
1 Cor. 13:6 (ESV)

But speaking the *truth* in love, ...  
Ephes. 4:15a (LEB)

**To NOT show love**  
(and let them go to hell)  
**is to HATE in a most evil way.**

- If you close your eyes to sin.
- If you refuse to warn others.

Is this *really* love?

Sure, they're my friends.  
But it's OK with me if they go to hell!

**Even so, there is a good form of HATE.**

- Without it, we are sinning!
- It will display itself *within* the context of *love*...  
Because ...

WHAT  
?!?!?

... it is another way of saying,  
**"I love God more than anything else!"**

- You'll hate *good things*, but only **IF** they get between you and God.
- You'll ALWAYS hate *sin*.

I *love* GOD more than I love myself.

I *love* GOD more than I love you.

I *love* GOD more than I love things.

And I *hate* sin.

**YOUR MISSION:**  
**APPLICATION**

- **Apply** what we've learned about salvation, first to yourself.
- **Apply** it because doing so is an expression of *love for God and neighbor!*

## Credits (1)

### SCRIPTURE

- Scriptures marked "NLT" – Scripture quoted from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright ©1996. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois 60189. All rights reserved. ([www.newlivingtranslation.com](http://www.newlivingtranslation.com))
- Scriptures marked "NIV" – Scripture quoted from the HCLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved. ([www.zondervanbibles.com](http://www.zondervanbibles.com))
- Scriptures marked "GW" – Scripture is taken from GOD'S WORD®. Copyright 1995 God's Word to the Nations. Used by permission of Baker Publishing Group. All rights reserved.
- Scriptures marked "ESV" – Scripture quotation from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. ([www.gnpcb.org](http://www.gnpcb.org))
- Scriptures marked "LEB" – Scripture quotations marked (LEB) are from the Leham English Bible. Copyright 2012 Logos Bible Software. Leham is a registered trademark of Logos Bible Software. (<http://www.lehamenglishbible.com> and <http://www.logos.com>)

### PICTURES (original sources; modifications may have been made)

- Man with binoculars – Man with binoculars – Public domain, Open Clipart Library (Uploader: johnny\_automatic) [http://opencart.org/detail/26911/man-with-binoculars-by-johnny\\_automatic](http://opencart.org/detail/26911/man-with-binoculars-by-johnny_automatic)
- Easef (flip chart) – By bitterjag [Public Domain], via opencart.org, <https://opencart.org/detail/169417/flipchart>
- Number "1" – By User Pee Tern (Own work) [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons; [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1\\_black\\_blue\\_rounded\\_rect.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1_black_blue_rounded_rect.svg)

## Credits (2)

### PICTURES (original sources; modifications may have been made)

- Number "2" – By Hayko (Own work) [CC BY-SA 4.0-3.0-2.5-2.0-1.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0-3.0-2.5-2.0-1.0>)], via Wikimedia Commons; <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:L2n.png> (color modified)
- Number "3" – [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons; <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Madrid-MetroLines3.svg>
- Warning sign (the word "warning") – By Rlc1394 (public domain) at opencart.org; <https://opencart.org/detail/28912/warning-black-orange> (modified)
- Warning sign (exclamation point) – By kg (public domain) at opencart.org; <https://opencart.org/detail/104263/warning-sign>
- Judge – By melwe (public domain) at opencart.org; <https://opencart.org/detail/19747/judge>
- Child in sand – By D. Sharon Pruitt from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, USA [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons; [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:L304\\_get\\_buried\\_up\\_to\\_her\\_neck\\_in\\_sand.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:L304_get_buried_up_to_her_neck_in_sand.jpg)
- Backgrounds not mentioned elsewhere (not a solid shade or provided as part of Microsoft PowerPoint®) – Dennis Hinks © 2013-2015.
- Presentation – Dennis Hinks © 2015.
- DISCLAIMER: The use of a picture does not imply that the author of that picture agrees with the views of this presentation. Some might agree; some might not.