

Assurance of Salvation Part 121

REVIEW

For
**ASSURANCE OF
SALVATION**



***Look to the
Bible, not to the
clouds!***

**We've come a long way on our
journey, discovering:**

- 1. Actions that prove we aren't saved.
- 2. Actions that prove nothing.
- 3. Actions that prove we are saved.

**We've already proven
all these things, so this
is just a review.**



The road map:
"WHERE WE STARTED"

1. Actions that prove we aren't saved.



On the following pages are
examples of sins that
prove we are NOT saved.

THESE EXAMPLES ARE FROM:

Romans 1:18-32; 13:13-14;
1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21;
Ephesians 4:19, 25, 29, 31; 5:3-7;
Colossians 3:5-9; 2 Timothy 3:1-5;
Titus 2:11-12; 3:3; 1 Peter 4:3;
Revelation 21:7-8

(Many other examples can be found throughout the Bible.)

If these sins characterize our lives, it proves we are NOT saved.

- abandoning themselves to sensuality
- abominable idolatry
- abusive
- abusive language
- adulterers
- all liars
- anger
- arrogant
- bitterness
- boastful
- brutal
- callous and unloving
- carousing
- clamoring
- coarse joking
- conceited
- deceit
- deceived
- degraded passions
- Disobedient
- disobedient to parents
- Dissensions
- drinking parties
- drunkards
- drunkenness
- eagerly indulging in all kinds of impure conduct
- enslaved to all kinds of desires and pleasures
- envy
- every form of malice
- every kind of wickedness
- evil
- evil desires
- exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images
- exchanged the truth of God for a lie
- factions
- faithless
- falsehood
- foolish
- foolish talk
- full of envy

If these sins characterize our lives, it proves we are NOT saved.

- God-haters
- gossips
- greed (this is idolatry)
- hating each another
- hating what is good
- hatred
- having a form of godliness but denying its power
- heartless
- idolaters
- idolatry
- immorality
- impurity
- insolent
- inventing ways of doing evil
- jealousy
- living in envy
- living in malice
- lovers of money
- lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God
- lovers of themselves
- lustful
- lustful acts
- lustful impurity
- lying to one another
- male prostitutes
- malice
- men abandoned natural sexual relations with women and burned with lust for each other
- men committed indecent sexual acts with other men
- murder
- obscenity
- outburst of anger
- passionate lust
- practicing homosexuals
- practicing magic
- proud
- rage
- reckless
- revelry
- ruthless
- selfish ambition

If these sins characterize our lives, it proves we are NOT saved.

- senseless
- sensual living
- sexual immorality
- sexually immoral
- slander
- slanders
- slanderous
- spiteful
- strife
- suppress the truth in their wickedness (since what can be known about God is plain to them)
- swindlers
- the cowardly
- the haters
- the greedy
- the idolaters
- the morally polluted
- the murderers
- the unbelieving
- they did not give thanks to him
- they did not honor him as God
- they know God's righteous decree (that those who do such things deserve death), but they continue to do them and approve of others doing them
- thieves
- those practicing magic arts
- treacherous
- unforgiving
- ungodliness
- ungrateful
- unholy
- unwholesome words
- unwilling to retain their knowledge of God
- wanton revelry
- without self-control
- women exchanged natural sexual relations for those going against nature
- worldly desires
- worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator
- wrath

NONE of these sins can characterize the life of a saved person.

* (This is no joke.) *

Those who live in Christ don't go on sinning.

Those who go on sinning haven't seen or known Christ.

1 John 3:6 (GW)

Those who have been born into God's family do not sin*, because God's life is in them.

So they can't keep on sinning*, because they have been born of God.

1 John 3:9 (NLT)

Yes, God's people will
struggle with sin...

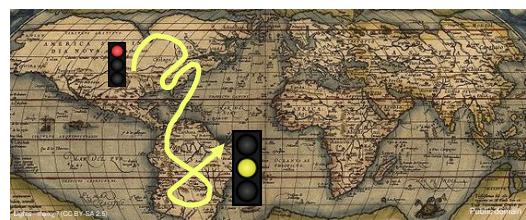
but they
won't
choose to
live in it.

FAKES do that!
(2 Peter 2:22)



The road map:
"CONTINUING ON OUR JOURNEY"

2. Actions that prove nothing.



EXAMPLES:

- Good deeds
- Knowing the Bible
- Religious activities
- Gifts and abilities
- Conviction of sin
- Feeling "assured" about our salvation
- Knowing the time of our supposed conversion

WHY do they prove nothing?

- MANY (not all) of them are a necessary part of following Jesus.
- Unfortunately, ALL of them can be done by people who are NOT followers of Jesus.

 Because of this, they cannot prove we are saved. 

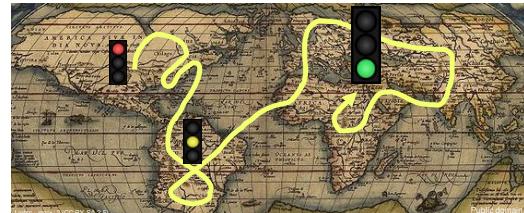
"Our Father,
who art
in heaven..."

See, even I can
quote the Bible!
(But that doesn't prove
I'm a Christian!)



The road map: **"OUR FINAL GOAL"**

3. Actions that prove we are saved.



People who are saved will be willing (and eager) to:

- Love God
- Repent of their sin
- Trust God in all of life
- Live a life characterized by humility and self-denial
- Devote themselves to God's honor and glory



 [The list continued.]

- Have a spirit of prayer
- Love other Christians
- Separate themselves from sinful influences
- Grow in grace
- Live a life characterized by day-to-day obedience

God guarantees these things will happen, and he teaches us to do them!

For **God is working in you**, giving you the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him.

Philip. 2:13 (NLT)

It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be **taught by God**.'

Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me [Jesus].

John 6:45 (NIV)

God uses Scripture to cause what is genuine to grow in his people

JESUS PRAYED TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE

"**Use the truth** to make them holy. Your words are truth."

John 17:17 (GW)

THE PEOPLE OF BEREIA SHOWED HOW IT BEGINS

Now the Bereans ... **received the message** with great eagerness and **examined the Scriptures** every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Acts 17:11 (NIV)

In the end, we will give **GOD** credit for our salvation!

He saved us, not because of the good things we did, but because of his mercy.

He washed away our sins and gave us a new life through the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:5 (NLT)

... to the praise of his glorious grace, ...

Ephes. 1:6a (NIV)

(If we gave ourselves credit, we would be lying!)

The KEY to assurance of salvation:



When GOD saves a person...

changes begin to occur!

FAKES will try to imitate godly characteristics.

JUST LIKE...



REAL TEETH!



REAL CAT!



REAL BANANAS!

REAL MONEY!



Eventually, their fakeness will be seen for what it is.

JUST LIKE...



FAKE TEETH!



FAKE CAT!



FAKE BANANAS!

FAKE MONEY!

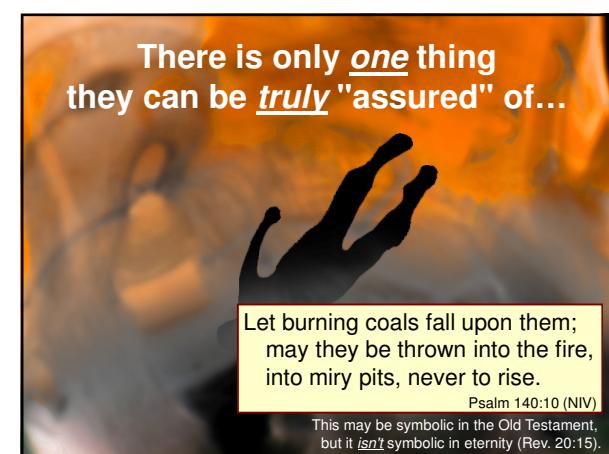


**Can unsaved people
think they are "assured"
about their salvation?**

YES!

★ But ONLY because they don't base
their "assurance" on Scripture. ★

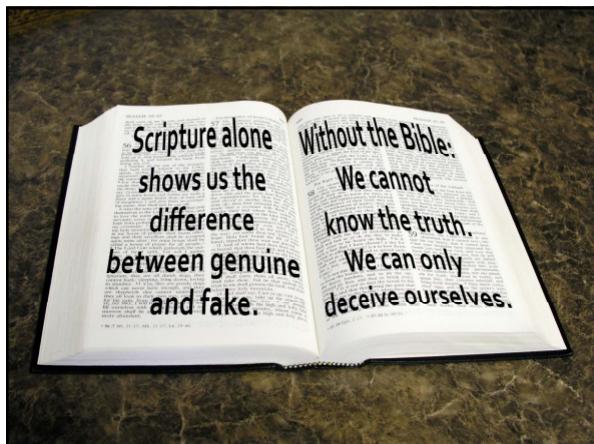
**There is only one thing
they can be truly "assured" of...**



Let burning coals fall upon them;
may they be thrown into the fire,
into miry pits, never to rise.

Psalm 140:10 (NIV)

This may be symbolic in the Old Testament,
but it isn't symbolic in eternity (Rev. 20:15).



**Can a saved person ever have
doubts about his salvation?**

YES!



¿?¿
**QUESTIONS
ABOUT
SALVATION
?!?**

**Doubts can occur when you're living
a life characterized by obedience ...**

- The **DEVIL** will use your conscience to attack you, because you know you aren't 100% sinless perfect.
- But **GOD** will remember the changes he is making in your life. So be encouraged and keep on living for him!

Whenever our conscience condemns us, we will be reassured that God is greater than our conscience and knows everything.

1 John 3:20 (GW)

But this applies only to those who are living a life of obedience!

Note the context – the verses just before 1 John 3:20!

Dear children, we must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words.

This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and how we will be reassured in his presence.

1 John 3:18-19 (GW)



Doubts can occur if you're starting to drift into disobedience ...

- GOD may send you doubts as a warning. He may also discipline you.

JESUS WARNS US:

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline.
So be earnest, and repent.

Rev. 3:19 (NIV)

★ IF YOU ARE GENUINE: This warning will help you return to doing what is right. ★

ALL who are genuine followers of Jesus will repent and return!

IF YOU'RE A FAKE:

- You will not heed the warning.
- You'll either remain spiritually lukewarm, or else will go deeper into sin.



I'M A CAT. HOW DARE YOU QUESTION MY IDENTITY!

You can know if you're saved!
SO...

YOUR MISSION is: "Live the PROOF"!

- Genuine assurance of salvation can exist only when the evidence – the "fruit of salvation" – is present.
 - If you want assurance: Do the things that prove it!
 - Without such things: You remain in darkness and self-deception.



ME-E-E-OW!!!

Credits (1)

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