

Assurance of Salvation Part 4

Having a morally upright life

Assurance of Salvation

(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?

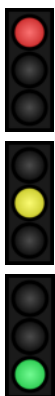
—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

(2 Corinthians 13:5, ESV)

1. Things that prove you *aren't* saved.

2. Things that prove *nothing*.

3. Things that prove you *are* saved.



Things that prove nothing.

Their *ABSENCE* is a good indicator that you do not know God...

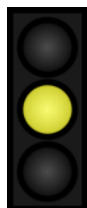
But their *PRESENCE* does not guarantee salvation.



Things that prove nothing.

This is because such things can be easily done by non-Christians.

Unfortunately, these are the things that most "church-goers" focus on as "proofs."



How can we know if something proves nothing?



If we can find an example in Scripture of:

- an unsaved person doing it, or
- the devil doing it,

then it is NOT proof of salvation!

TODAY'S TOPIC:
A morally upright life

(= doing good deeds for other people)

- All people have an obligation to live this way.
- Followers of Jesus desire to live this way.
- But does living this way prove you're a follower of Jesus?



Do enough "good," and maybe they'll make a statue of you!

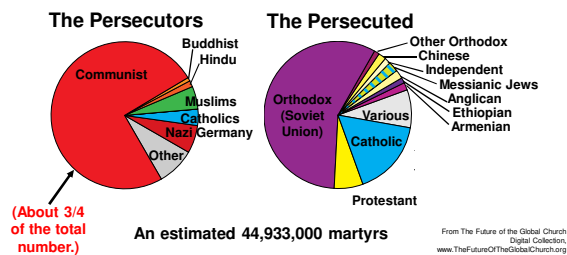
(Ever see a billboard like this?)



Are these people Christians?

(Of course, the "millions" part might be an exaggeration, considering all the genocide and murder that such "good" people committed in the last century – nearly 35 million people martyred by them!)

Persecution in the 20th Century



KEY POINT:
Anyone can help an old lady across the road!

- Even an atheist. -

(So it doesn't prove you're a Christian.)



What about religious people who do good things?

Mark 10:19-20 (NIV)

You know the commandments: "Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother."

"Teacher," he declared, "all these I have kept since I was a boy."



Christ and the rich young ruler

He did all the "humanitarian" stuff!
(just like many people do today)

JESUS' RESPONSE ???

Mark 10:21 (NIV)

Jesus looked at him and loved him.

"One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven.

Then come, follow me."

Humanitarian activities
separated from "love for God" is
IDOLATRY!

- Omitting "God" from your good deeds is like *redefining* the word "good."
- It's a "half-truth"; and the devil *loves* half-truths!



YOUR MISSION...
1) Don't lie about the truth.

- You DO have an obligation to have a morally upright life. (All people do.)
- But this, by itself, does *NOT* prove you are saved.

YOUR MISSION...
2) Obey the truth.

- Live this way out of love.
- Don't rely on it as an "evidence" of salvation.
(because it isn't evidence)

Finally...
If you're starting to worry about
your salvation...
(because you've been trusting in things that are
NOT proof)

- Pray that God will do whatever is necessary to change you.
- Pay attention to the Bible: Let it change the way you think, and then do what it says.

Credits (1)

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Credits (2)

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