

HIGHER AIM WITH DR. CURT DODD

Saved And Secure

Saved And Secure | Part 1 | 1 John 5:13

INTRODUCTION

Many of us have been shaped by a strong work ethic. We are taught to work hard, succeed, and earn our way. This mindset can easily spill over into our spiritual lives, making us feel like we must perform for God's approval. For others, our past experiences, perhaps growing up in a broken or abusive home, have left us with a deep-seated fear that God might change His mind and leave us, just as others have. We wrestle with the thought that our salvation depends on our ability to be "good enough."

But God's Kingdom operates on a different principle. The security He offers is not based on our performance or our past, but on His unwavering promise. Scripture was written to give us confidence and peace, anchoring our hope not in our own efforts, but in the finished work of Jesus Christ. God wants you to be secure, to live with the unshakeable confidence that you belong to Him, no matter what storms you face.

KEY POINTS

1. Salvation Is a Gift You Cannot Lose

The Bible is clear: salvation is a gift. Paul writes, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast." God gives us what we do not deserve. He initiates our salvation, gives us the faith to believe, and sustains that faith for our entire lives. Because you did nothing to earn it, there is nothing you can do to lose it. God's gifts and His call are irrevocable, meaning He will not change His mind about you or take back His promise (*Romans 11:29*). To think we must add our own good works to what Christ did on the cross is an insult to His sacrifice. It is Jesus plus nothing that secures our eternal life.

HIGHER AIM WITH DR. CURT DODD

Saved And Secure

Saved And Secure | Part 1 | 1 John 5:13

2. God Wants You to Know You Are His

The Apostle John wrote an entire letter for a specific purpose: “I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” God does not want His children living in doubt. The word “believe” in this verse means to put your full weight and trust in Jesus, just as you trust a chair to hold you. But John goes further, using the word “know” (*ginosko* in Greek), which describes a deep, intimate, and personal knowledge. God’s desire is for you to have more than just mental agreement; He wants you to know in the core of your being that you belong to Him. This assurance comes not from our feelings, which can change, but from the unchanging truth of God’s Word.

True security in Christ frees us from the exhausting cycle of trying to earn God’s favor. When we rest in the truth that our salvation is a finished work, accomplished by Christ alone, our lives are transformed. This confidence is not a license to live carelessly; rather, it is the foundation for a life of grateful obedience. Knowing you are eternally secure empowers you to share your faith with boldness, to love others without fear, and to persevere through suffering with hope. This assurance allows you to stand firm on the promises of God, even when your past experiences or present struggles tempt you to doubt. Your relationship with God is not based on your ability to hold on to Him, but on His unbreakable promise to hold on to you. As Jesus said, “I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand” (*John 10:28*).

HIGHER AIM WITH DR. CURT DODD

Saved And Secure

Saved And Secure | Part 1 | 1 John 5:13

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. In what areas of your life do you find yourself trying to "earn" God's approval instead of resting in the gift of His grace?
2. How has your personal history or upbringing made it either easier or more difficult to trust that God's love for you is secure and unconditional?
3. How would living with the full confidence of your eternal security change the way you face daily challenges, relate to others, or share your faith?
