

HIGHER AIM WITH DR. CURT DODD

An Unbreakable Promise

What We Believe | Part 5 | Philipians 1:6, Romans 8:16

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever found yourself lying awake at night, wrestling with a deep, unsettling question: “Am I truly saved?” Maybe you can recall a moment you prayed a prayer, but life’s struggles, personal failures, or the simple passage of time have planted seeds of doubt. You might wonder, “Did I say the right words? Was I sincere enough? Could God really stay with me through all of this?” This is not an uncommon struggle; in fact, it’s a deeply human one.

This feeling of spiritual insecurity can be paralyzing. It can make us wonder if our relationship with God is dependent on our ability to be good enough. But the good news of the gospel is not about our performance; it is about God’s promise. Scripture does not want us to live in a state of constant doubt. Instead, it offers a profound and steadying confidence, anchored not in our wavering feelings, but in the unchanging character of God Himself. He wants you to know that you know that you know Him.

KEY POINTS

1. Salvation is God’s work from start to finish

The Bible teaches that becoming a child of God is a great experience, but it is also a process that God Himself oversees. Paul writes, “Being confident of this very thing, that he who began a good work in you will continue to do it until the day of Christ Jesus.” Notice the emphasis: it is *He* who began the work, and it is *He* who will see it to completion. The moment you place your faith in Christ, you are justified, declared holy in God’s sight. From that point on, you are in the process of sanctification, being set apart and made more like Jesus. This journey culminates in glorification, when you see Him face to face. Your security does not rest on your ability to hold on to God, but on His unbreakable promise to hold on to you.

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2. Our doubts do not change God's reality

If our salvation is so secure, why do we struggle with doubt? Often, our struggles come from one of three places. First, we may have been taught incorrectly, led to believe our salvation is fragile and can be lost through poor performance. Second, we may have more faith in our feelings than in God's Word. Our feelings change daily, but God's truth remains constant. We cannot trust our emotions to define our standing with God. Third, our past experiences, especially with an absent or condemning earthly father, can emotionally set us up to project that image onto our Heavenly Father. We must allow God's Word, which declares that nothing can separate us from His love, to be the final authority in our lives, not our feelings or our past.

3. The Holy Spirit confirms our place in God's family

Beyond the promises in Scripture, God gives us a personal, internal confirmation of our salvation. Paul says, "The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God." This is not an audible voice, but a deep, inner assurance from the Spirit of God that you belong to Him. It's a quiet whisper to your heart that says, "You are already mine." This witness is not something we earn; it is a gift of grace designed to give us peace. When doubts arise, we can learn to listen for this steadying voice of the Spirit, which always aligns with the truth of God's Word, reminding us of our secure place as His beloved children.

Living with the confidence of our salvation is not a license to live carelessly; it is the foundation for a life of grateful, joyful obedience. When you know your eternal destiny is secure in Christ's hands, you are freed from the fear of failure and the pressure to perform. You can serve, love, and take faithful risks not to *earn* God's favor, but because you already *have* it.

This security changes how you face suffering. It allows you to trust that God is working in your life even when circumstances are painful, knowing that He will finish the good work He started. It also shapes the legacy you leave. By living a life of quiet confidence in God's promises, you model for your children and grandchildren a faith that is not built on shifting sand but on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. Let your life be a testament not to your own strength, but to the enduring faithfulness of a God who never lets go of His children.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. In what areas of your life do you find yourself trusting your feelings more than the promises of God's Word?
2. How would your daily approach to challenges, relationships, and service change if you lived with the full confidence that your salvation is secure?
3. What practical steps can you take this week to quiet your heart and listen for the Holy Spirit's witness, reminding you that you are a child of God?
