

TAKING INVENTORY
"How I Know I'm Saved"
John 10:22-30

INTRODUCTION:

1. As a believer I want to know that I'm going to Heaven when I die.
a) **1 John 5:13**
2. **The Main Purpose of John's Writings:**
 - a) To bring **Assurance**:
 - 1) The letters of John help believers live with the settled knowledge of eternal life.
 - b) Brings **Life**:
 - 1) True belief in Jesus brings spiritual life and a personal relationship with God.
 - 2) **John 10:10**
3. **Romans 3:23**
 - a) All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.
 - 1) If that is true how, do I know I'm saved.
4. **John 10:22-30**

THE ASSURANCE, THE SECURITY, AND EVIDENCE, OF ETERNAL LIFE

I. THE AFFIRMATION THAT YOU ARE SAVED

- **Vs 28a**
 - Two assurances here:
 - *"They shall never perish"*
 - *"and no one will snatch them out of my hand"*
- This doctrine is so important that all members of the Trinity get involved.

A. WHAT GOD THE FATHER HAS TO SAY

1. **Romans 11:29**
 - a) *"The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable"*
2. That means God doesn't change His mind about who He saves.
 - a) **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**
 - b) **1 Corinthians 1:8-9**

3. 1 Peter 1:3-5

- a) Those whom God saves He keeps by His own power.

4. Ephesians 2:8-10

- a) *"for we are His workmanship"*
- b) *"created in Christ Jesus for good works,"*
- c) *"Which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them"*

B. WHAT CHRIST ACCOMPLISHED

1. Hebrews 10:14 NKJV

2. The atoning sacrifice of Christ was so perfect that Christ died one time for the sins of the world.

- a) *"forever"*
 - 1) Forever is forever.

3. 1 Peter 3:18

C. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ROLE IN ETERNAL LIFE

1. Ephesians 1:13

- a) What a powerful verse.
 - 1) "when you heard the *word of truth*"
 - 2) "the gospel of your salvation"
 - 3) "and believed in Him"
 - 4) "were sealed with the promised *Holy Spirit*"
- b) **The image here is what was used in ancient times.**
 - 1) Official documents were sealed with an official mark that could not be broken.
 - 2) The seal was for security until the document reached it's destination.
- c) **THE HOLY SPIRIT is our guarantee and security, that we reach our destination.**

2. Ephesians 1:14

- a) *"who is the guarantee of our inheritance"*

3. 43 times in the **GOSPEL of JOHN**, the **LIFE** of the believer is referred to as **ETERNAL LIFE**.

a) The moment you believe in Christ as your **SAVIOR**, **YOU ENTER INTO ETERNAL LIFE**, passing from death into life!!!

1) **Eternal life begins the moment you get saved.**

b) The Bible says a number of things happen to us the moment of Salvation.

1) We are "**Born Again**"

2) We are "**Saved**".

3) We are "**Redeemed**"

4) We are "**Regenerated**"

5. Baptized into the **Body of Christ**.

c) If you could negate your Salvation, all these things would have to be undone.

d) **EVERYTHING GOD DOES IN SALVATION IS PERFECT AND PERMANENT.**

II. THE ASSURANCE OF ETERNAL LIFE

1. HELD BY GOD

a) Vs 28b

1) *"and no one will snatch them out of my hand"*

b) Vs 29

1) *"and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand."*

2. *Roman's 8:35-39*

a) Paul gives a long list of things that cannot separate us from the love of Christ.

3. **HERE'S THE BIG PROBLEM!!!**

a) *"If we are Eternally Secure, and we cannot lose our salvation then that means we can just go out and live any way we want to".*

b) Anyone who looks @ Eternal Security as an insurance policy and an excuse to do what they want, doesn't know the Lord to begin with.

4. **FACT IS:** Those who have truly experienced the forgiveness of the Lord and have experienced His Love, Grace and Mercy are looking for ways to please Him.

5. Again *Ephesians 2:10*

a) God puts the desire for good works in our hearts.

1) That's WHY GOD SAVED US.

b) *2 Corinthians 5:17*

c) **WARNING!!! If you have no desire to use your Spiritual Gift, that is a SERIOUS WARNING SIGN concerning your Salvation.**

III. THE EVIDENCE OF SALVATION

- I have watched individuals who were seemingly faithful followers of Christ...
 - a) Walk an aisle, raise their hand, fill out the form, get baptized, join the church.
 - b) And then one day....walk away and never return.
 - 1) Is that person saved?

A. WHAT DID JESUS SAY?

1. *John 10:27*

a) *"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me"*

2. *A true Christian is one who listens to the Words of Jesus and follows Him.*

3. That means, that when you read the Word of God, there will be a spirit of affirmation and agreement!!!

4. And in your spirit you will affirm it's truth.

a) And in some cases, the battle is on!!!

1) Sometimes we grieve the Holy Spirit - *Ephesians 4:30*

b) And we must be careful we don't quench the Holy Spirit.

1) *1 Thessalonians 5:19*

B. A BIBLE EXAMPLE

1. *John 13:21-25*

a) *"who is it?"*

2. **Nobody even suspected Judas!!!!!!!!!!**

a) **Why?** Because he looked like a believer!!

C. THE TEST

1. Paul said, "*Examine yourselves, whether you are in the faith*"
a) *2 Corinthians 13:5*

2. **The test is 2-fold:**

a) Do I listen to God's Voice

b) And Do I follow Him

CONCLUSION:

1. More than our activities, it is walking in the footprints of Jesus that reveals who we truly are.