Ecclesiology

Session 34



Dr. Andy Woods

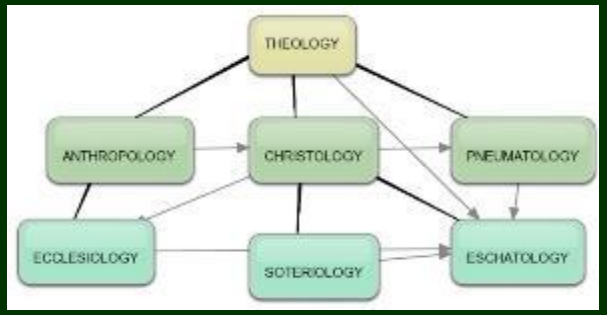
Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Areas of Systematic Theology

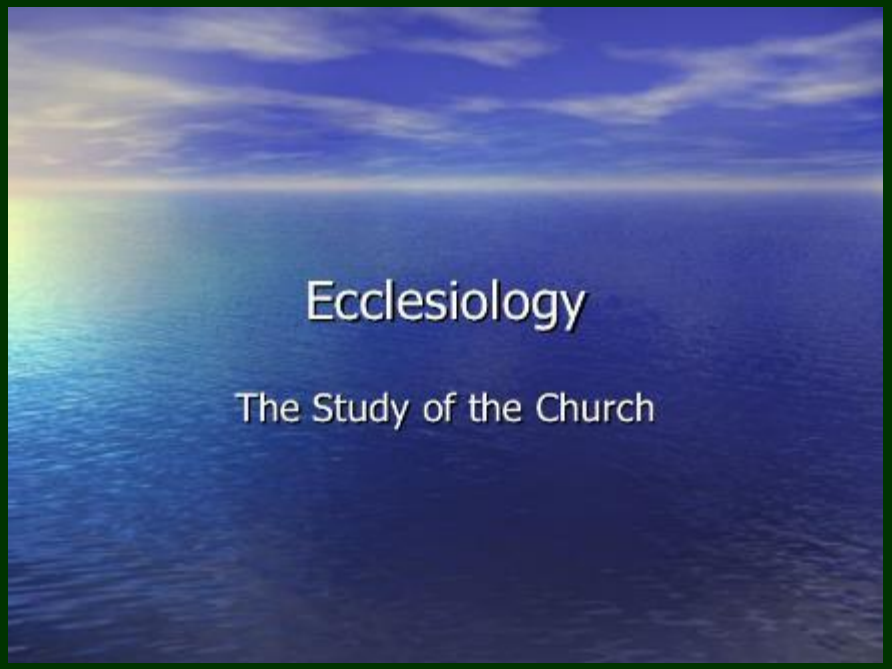


- Prolegomena – Introduction
- Theology – Study of God
- Christology – Study of Christ
- Pneumatology – Study of the Holy Spirit
- Anthropology – Study of Man
- Hamartiology – Study of sin
- Soteriology – Study of salvation
- Angelology – Study of angels
- **Ecclesiology – Study of the Church**
- Eschatology – Study of the end



Ecclesiology Overview

I. Definition
II. Universal vs. local
III. Word pictures
IV. Origin
V. Israel – Church differences
VI. Intercalation
VII. Purposes
VIII. Activities
IX. Government
X. Officers
XI. Ordinances
XII. Purity

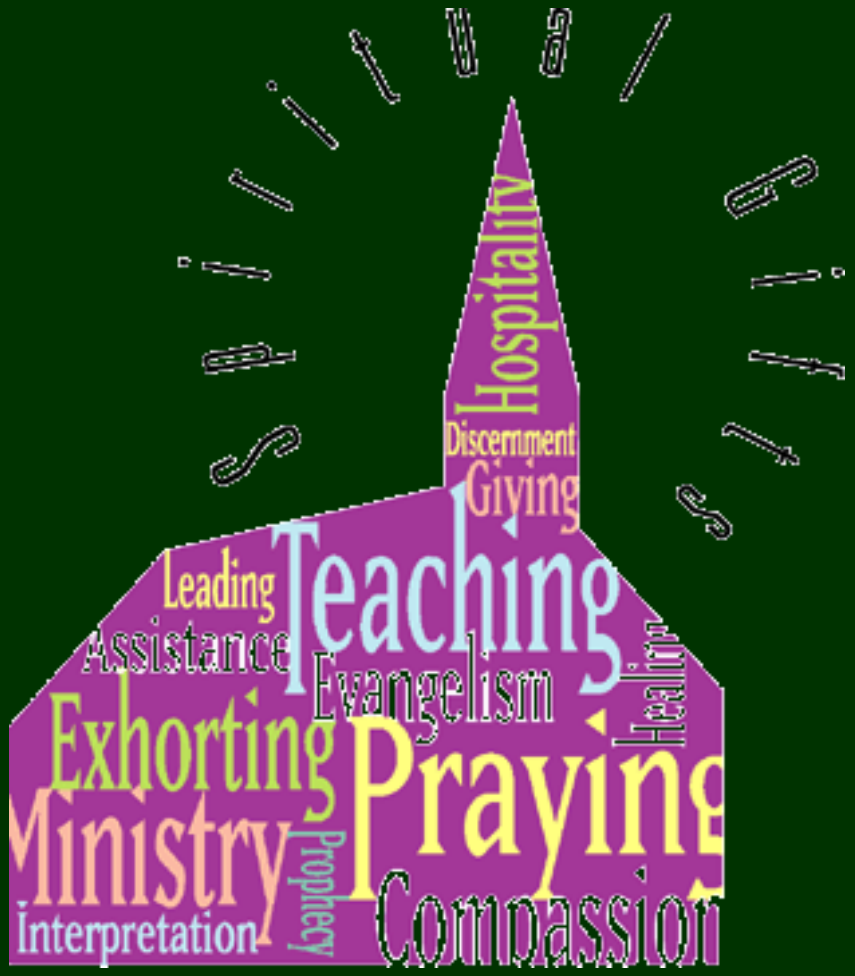


VII. Purposes of the Local Church



- Glorify God (Eph 3:21)
- **Edify the saints (Eph 4:11-16)**
- Fulfill the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20)

Spiritual Gifts



Four Questions

1. What are some general observations about spiritual gifts?
2. Are all the spiritual gifts for today?
3. What are the spiritual gifts?
4. How do we discover our own unique area of gifting?



Four Questions

1. **<u>What are some general observations about spiritual gifts?</u>**
2. Are all the spiritual gifts for today?
3. What are the spiritual gifts?
4. How do we discover our own unique area of gifting?



Four Questions

1. What are some general observations about spiritual gifts?
2. **Are all the spiritual gifts for today?**
3. What are the spiritual gifts?
4. How do we discover our own unique area of gifting?



The Case for Selective Cessationism

I. Preliminary thoughts

II. Four categories of gifts
   A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)
   B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)
   C. Revelatory (Jude 3)
   D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)



III. Church history and selective cessationism

IV. Proper operation of the Sign & Revelatory gifts

V. True source of the charismatic movement

VI. Explanation of the Charismatic movement's popularity

The Case for Selective Cessationism

I. **Preliminary thoughts**



II. Four categories of gifts
   A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)
   B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)
   C. Revelatory (Jude 3)
   D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)

III. Church history and selective cessationism

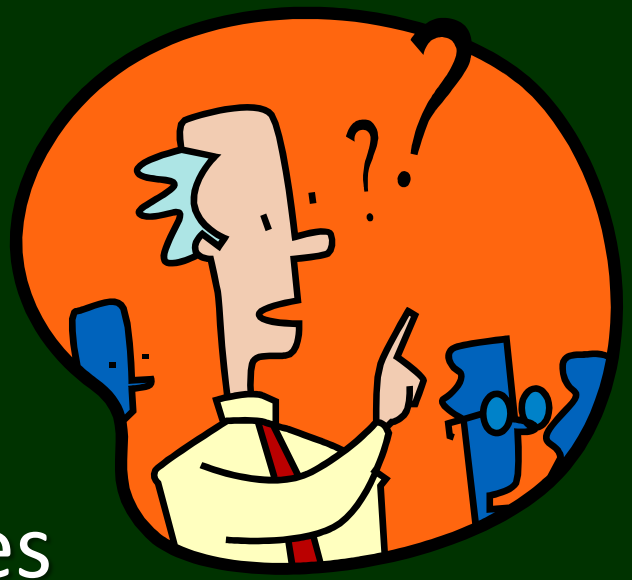
IV. Proper operation of the Sign & Revelatory gifts

V. True source of the charismatic movement

VI. Explanation of the Charismatic movement's popularity

The 7 Disputed Gifts

1. Apostle
2. Prophet
3. Worker of Miracles
4. Tongues
5. Interpretation of tongues
6. Healing
7. Knowledge



Two Camps

1. **Charismatics** – All the spiritual gifts are in operation today

2. **Cessationists** (selective)– Most of the spiritual gifts are in operation today



SLBC Position Statement No. 7

"TEMPORARY SPIRITUAL GIFTS – This church teaches that the miraculous sign gifts, including the gift of tongues, (always the ability to speak in a previously unlearned, known language) along with the gift of healings were temporal gifts, given by the Holy Spirit solely to authenticate both the apostles and their message before the close of the canon of Scripture (1 Cor. 13:8-10). We do not believe that these are active as gifts today. However, we affirm that God is sovereign and may heal and/or give someone the ability to speak in a tongue (foreign language) today. We believe that the majority of what is termed 'miraculous' within the contemporary charismatic movement is something other than the Biblical gifts of tongues or healing."

The Case for Selective Cessationism

I. Preliminary thoughts

II. <u>Four categories of gifts</u>

A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)

B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)

C. Revelatory (Jude 3)

D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)



III. Church history and selective cessationism

IV. Proper operation of the Sign & Revelatory gifts

V. True source of the charismatic movement

VI. Explanation of the Charismatic movement's popularity

The Case for Selective Cessationism

I. Preliminary thoughts
II. Four categories of gifts
    A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)
    B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)
    C. Revelatory (Jude 3)
    D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)



III. <u>Church history and selective cessationism</u>

IV. Proper operation of the Sign & Revelatory gifts
V. True source of the charismatic movement
VI. Explanation of the Charismatic movement's popularity

The Case for Selective Cessationism



I. Preliminary thoughts
II. Four categories of gifts
    A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)
    B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)
    C. Revelatory (Jude 3)
    D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)
III. Church history and selective cessationism
IV. <u>Proper operation of the Sign & Revelatory gifts</u>
V. True source of the charismatic movement
VI. Explanation of the Charismatic movement's popularity

IV. Proper Operation of the Sign & Revelatory Gifts

A. Prophecy

B. Tongues



A. Proper Rules for Prophecy



1. 100% accuracy (Deut. 18:20-22; Acts 11:28; 21:10-11)
2. 2 to 3 prophets at a time (1 Cor. 14:29a)
3. Prophets are in full control of their faculties (1 Cor. 14:32)
4. Listeners are to judge carefully
   a) 1 Cor. 14:29b
   b) Deut. 13:1-5; Isa. 8:19-20; Acts 17:11; Gal. 1:8-9; 1 Thess. 5:20-21; 1 John 4:1; Rev. 2:2

B. 10 Proper Rules for Tongues



1. No gibberish or incoherent speech (1 Cor. 12:10)
2. Tongues are low priority in Church (1 Cor. 12:28-30)
3. Teaching edification > priority over tongues (1 Cor. 14:19)
4. No untranslated tongues in Church (1 Cor. 14:23, 28)
5. Only 2 to 3 tongue speakers at a time (1 Cor. 14:27)
6. Speakers are in control of their faculties (1 Cor. 14:32)
7. Services = orderly absent confusion (1 Cor. 14:33, 40)
8. Not all Christians speak in tongues (1 Cor. 12:30)
9. Christians need not seek tongues (1 Cor. 12:31)
10. Tongues ≠ a private prayer language (1 Cor. 14:26-27)

The Case for Selective Cessationism



I. Preliminary thoughts
II. Four categories of gifts
    A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)
    B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)
    C. Revelatory (Jude 3)
    D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)
III. Church history and selective cessationism
IV. Proper operation of the Sign & Revelatory gifts
V. <u>True source of the charismatic movement</u>
VI. Explanation of the Charismatic movement's popularity

SLBC Position Statement No. 7

"TEMPORARY SPIRITUAL GIFTS – This church teaches that the miraculous sign gifts, including the gift of tongues, (always the ability to speak in a previously unlearned, known language) along with the gift of healings were temporal gifts, given by the Holy Spirit solely to authenticate both the apostles and their message before the close of the canon of Scripture (1 Cor. 13:8-10). We do not believe that these are active as gifts today. However, we affirm that God is sovereign and may heal and/or give someone the ability to speak in a tongue (foreign language) today. **We believe that the majority of what is termed 'miraculous' within the contemporary charismatic movement is something other than the Biblical gifts of tongues or healing**."

Tongues and the Unsaved

"Now before you sit down and write me a letter telling me how real your experience with tongues is, let me tell you about mine. I've spoken in tongues on several occasions. I've walked down aisles, I've prayed through at the altar, I've followed the instructions of the spiritual leaders who were telling me how to speak in tongues, and I spoke in tongues. **It was very real. It happened. There was nothing unreal about it. But it was not of the Holy Spirit! How do I know? I wasn't even saved at the time.** That's how I know. I became convinced by the preaching I heard that I must speak in tongues to be right with God. I was determined to do it, and I did it."

Cited by John Miles, The Subject of Tongues, an Introduction to Christian Doctrine: An Outline Course, (Grand Rapids; Grand Rapids School of the Bible and Music, 1974), p. 3.

Satanic/Demonic Miracles

- Exod 7–8
- Deut 13:1-3
- Matt 7:21-23; 24:24
- Acts 8:9; 16:16
- Gal 1:6-9
- 2 Thess 2:9
- Rev 13:3, 13; 16:13-14



Antichrist's Satanic Miracles
2 Thessalonians 2:9

Miracle	Greek Word	Christ's Ministry
Powers	*Dynamis*	Matt. 11:20
Signs	*Semēion*	John 20:30
Wonders	*Teras*	Acts 2:22

I. Proper Rules for Prophecy



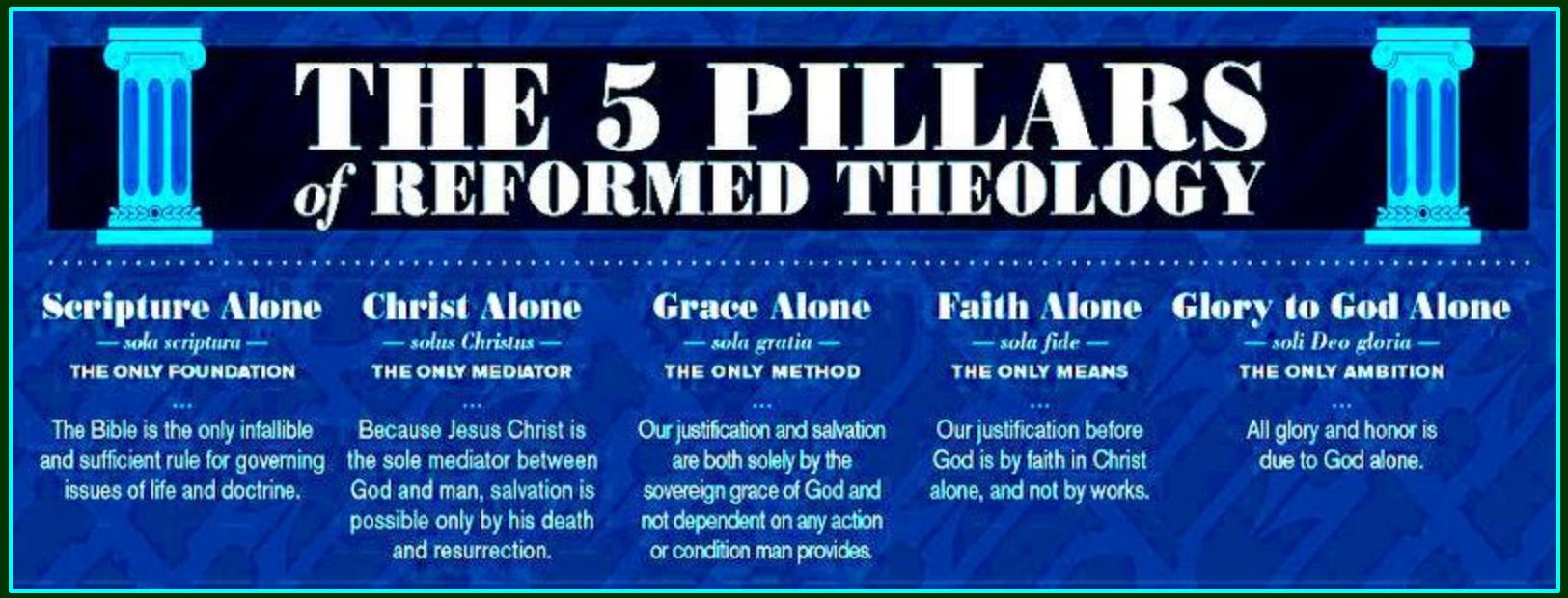
A. 100% accuracy (Deut. 18:20-22; Acts 11:28; 21:10-11)

B. 2 to 3 prophets at a time (1 Cor. 14:28)

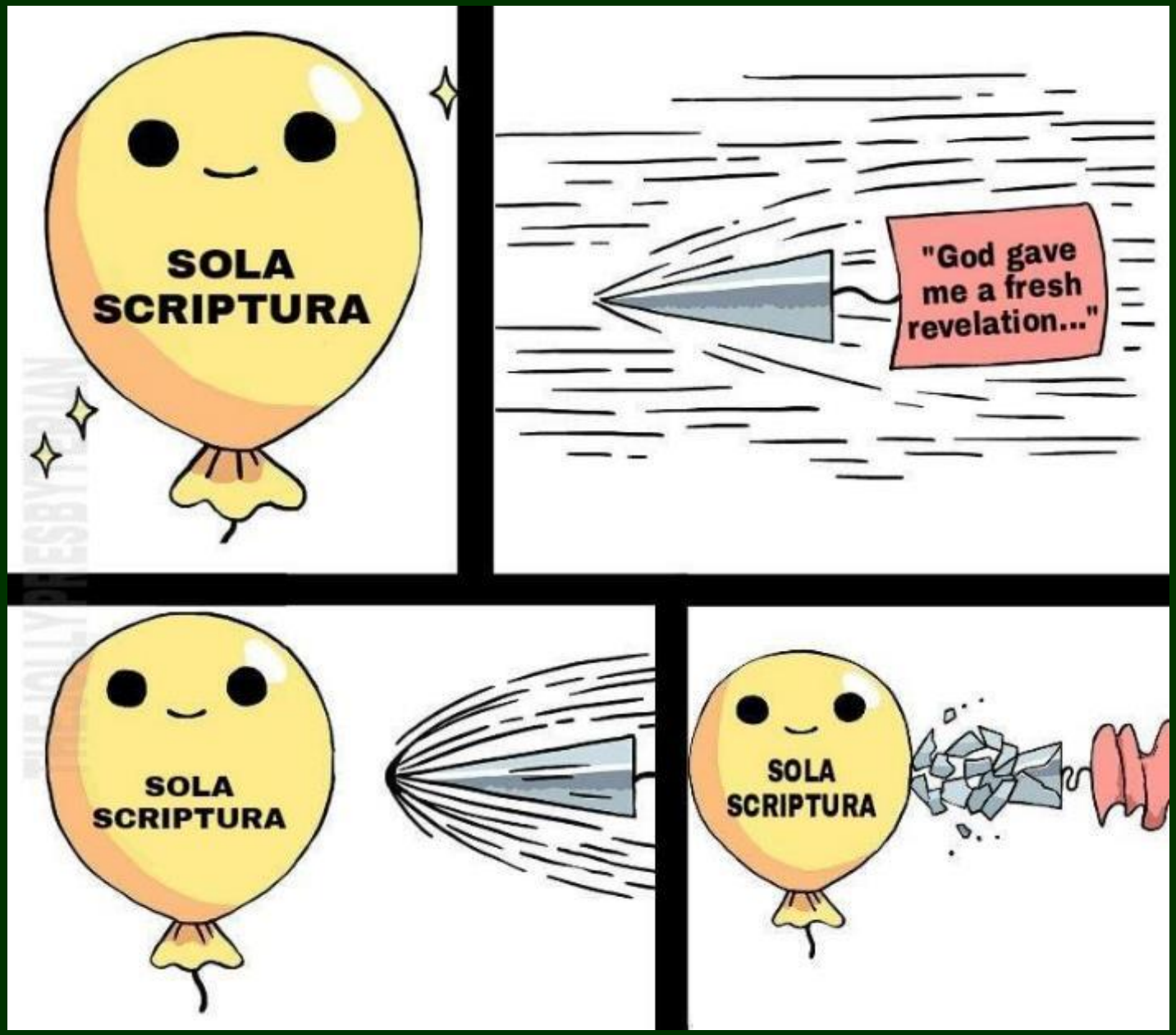
C. Prophets are in full control of their faculties (1 Cor. 14:32)

D. <u>Listeners are to judge carefully</u>

1. 1 Cor. 14:28
2. Deut. 13:1-5; Isa. 8:20; Acts 17:11; Gal. 1:8-9; 1 Thess. 5:20-21; 1 John 4:1; Rev. 2:2



Number	Latin	Meaning
1.	***Sola Scriptura***	**Scripture Alone**
2.	*Solus Christus*	Christ Alone
3.	*Sola Fide*	Faith Alone
4.	*Sola Graetia*	Grace Alone
5.	*Soli Deo Gloria*	To the Glory of God Alone



Posted by Jonathan David Sarfati

The Case for Selective Cessationism

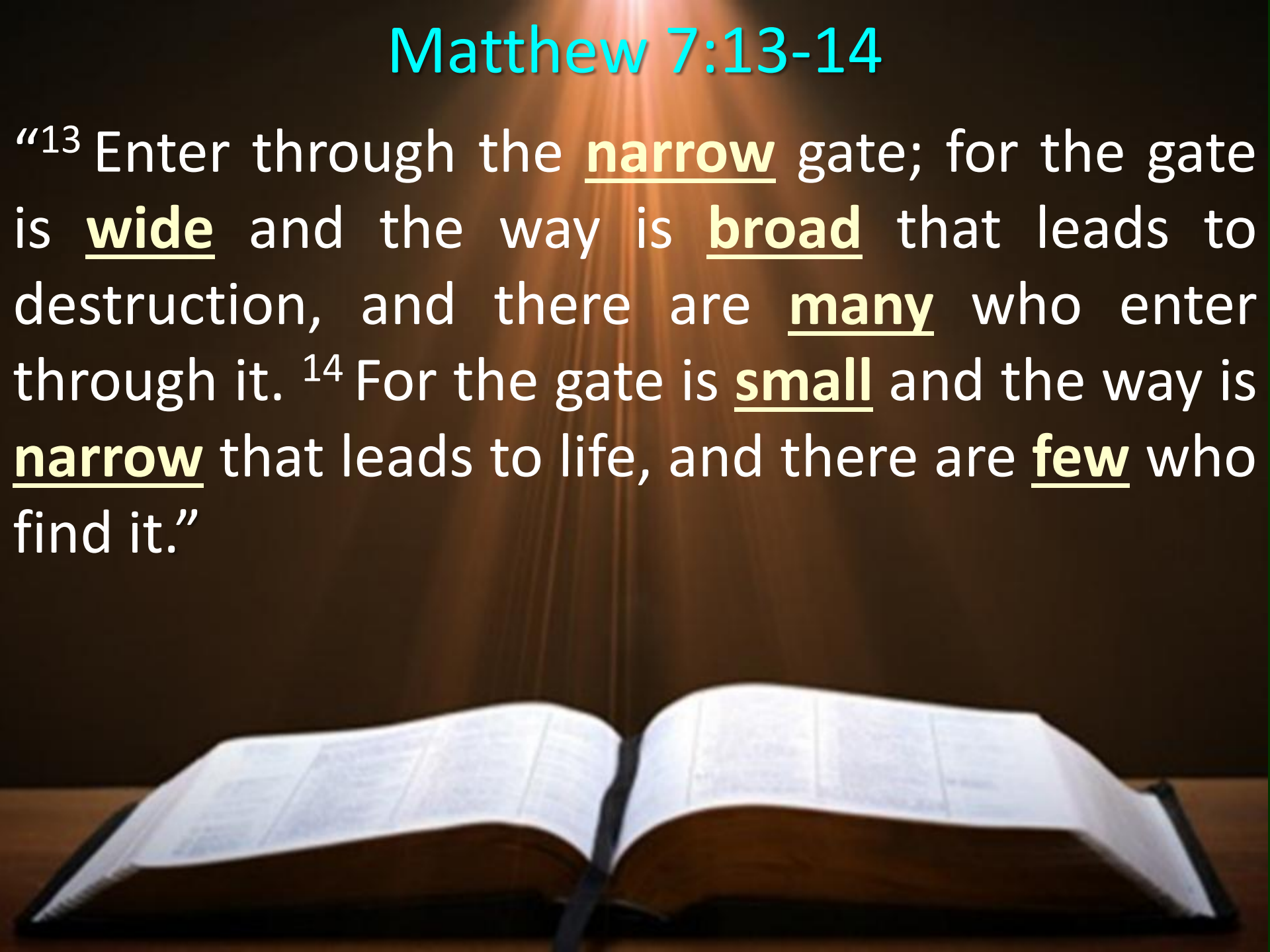


I. Preliminary thoughts
II. Four categories of gifts
    A. Foundational (Eph 2:20)
    B. Confirmatory (Heb 2:3-4)
    C. Revelatory (Jude 3)
    D. Edificatory gifts continue (Eph. 4:11-16)
III. Church history and selective cessationism
IV. Proper operation of the Sign & Revelatory gifts
V. True source of the charismatic movement
VI. <u>Explanation of the Charismatic movement's popularity</u>


Mediterranean Sea
CANAAN
Gaza
Dead Sea
Beersheba
Arad
Way to the Land of the Philistines
Migdol
WILDERNESS OF ZIN
Rameses
EGYPT
Tahpanhes
Pithom?
GOSHEN
Succoth?
WILDERNESS OF SHUR
Kadesh-barnea
Punon
WILDERNESS OF PARAN
On
Memphis
Marah?
Timna
Elath
SINAI
Jotbathah?
Ezion-geber?
Nile River
Elim?
Red Sea
Dophkah?
WILDERNESS OF SIN
Hazeroth?
MIDIAN
Red Sea
Rephidim?
Mount Sinai? (Jebel Musa)
0
50
100 mi
0
50
100
150 km

Matthew 7:13-14

“13 Enter through the **narrow** gate; for the gate is **wide** and the way is **broad** that leads to destruction, and there are **many** who enter through it. 14 For the gate is **small** and the way is **narrow** that leads to life, and there are **few** who find it.”



Popularity of the Charismatic Movement?

1. Attracts those who are drawn to miraculous experiences rather than simple trust in Christ & His Word
2. Attracts those who have a difficult time trusting God through life's adversities
3. Attracts those discontent with gradual progressive sanctification
4. Attracts those lacking salvation's assurance
5. Attracts those not wanting to worship God in truth
6. Attracts those desiring authority over others



Popularity of the Charismatic Movement?

1. **Attracts those who are drawn to miraculous experiences rather than simple trust in Christ & His Word**
2. Attracts those who have a difficult time trusting God through life's adversities
3. Attracts those discontent with gradual progressive sanctification
4. Attracts those lacking salvation's assurance
5. Attracts those not wanting to worship God in truth
6. Attracts those desiring authority over others



1. Attracts those who are drawn to miraculous experiences rather than simple trust in Christ & His Word

a. Faith in Christ alone is sufficient (2 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:6)

b. God's Word is sufficient (Rom. 10:17; 2 Tim. 3:15)

c. Miracles do not automatically produce faith or obedience (Luke 16:27-31; Matt. 12:38-42; Acts 2:22-23; Gal. 1:6-9; 3:5; 1 Cor. 1:7; John 7:17; Rom. 1:18-22)

d. Many are interested in Christ only for the miracle they think He can do for them (Matt. 12:38-39; John 4:48; 6:15, 26)


Mediterranean Sea
CANAAN
Gaza
Dead Sea
Beersheba
Arad
Way to the Land of the Philistines
Migdol
WILDERNESS OF ZIN
Rameses
EGYPT
Tahpanhes
Pithom?
GOSHEN
Succoth?
WILDERNESS OF SHUR
Kadesh-barnea
Punon
WILDERNESS OF PARAN
On
Memphis
Marah?
Timna
Elath
SINAI
Jotbathah?
Ezion-geber?
Nile River
Elim?
Red Sea
Dophkah?
WILDERNESS OF SIN
Hazeroth?
MIDIAN
Red Sea
Rephidim?
Mount Sinai? (Jebel Musa)
0
50
100 mi
0
50
100
150 km

Popularity of the Charismatic Movement?

1. Attracts those who are drawn to miraculous experiences rather than simple trust in Christ & His Word
2. **Attracts those who have a difficult time trusting God through life's adversities**
3. Attracts those discontent with gradual progressive sanctification
4. Attracts those lacking salvation's assurance
5. Attracts those not wanting to worship God in truth
6. Attracts those desiring authority over others



Popularity of the Charismatic Movement?

1. Attracts those who are drawn to miraculous experiences rather than simple trust in Christ & His Word
2. Attracts those who have a difficult time trusting God through life's adversities
3. **Attracts those discontent with gradual progressive sanctification**
4. Attracts those lacking salvation's assurance
5. Attracts those not wanting to worship God in truth
6. Attracts those desiring authority over others



Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

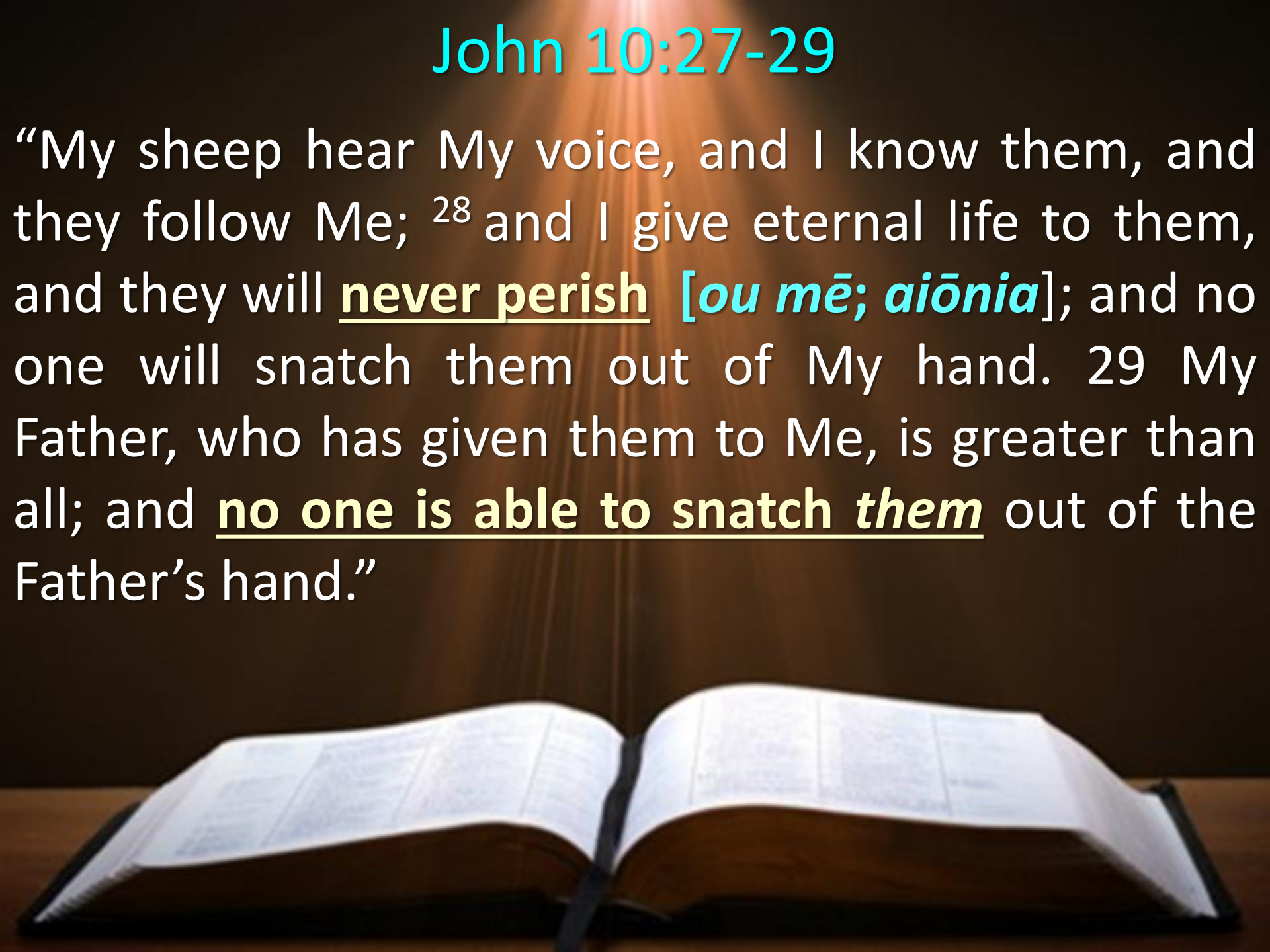
Popularity of the Charismatic Movement?

1. Attracts those who are drawn to miraculous experiences rather than simple trust in Christ & His Word
2. Attracts those who have a difficult time trusting God through life's adversities
3. Attracts those discontent with gradual progressive sanctification
4. **Attracts those lacking salvation's assurance**
5. Attracts those not wanting to worship God in truth
6. Attracts those desiring authority over others



John 10:27-29

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; [28] and I give eternal life to them, and they will **never perish** [***ou mē; aiōnia***]; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and **no one is able to snatch *them*** out of the Father’s hand.”



The Assurance Of Salvation Is Possible
(1 John 5:14)

- **Biblical examples of assurance**
  - OT – Job 19:25-26; Ps. 23:6
  - Gospels – John 5:24; 6:47
  - Acts – Acts 16:30-31
  - Paul – Rom. 5:2; 8:23-24; Col. 1:27; Titus 2:13; 2 Cor. 5:8; Philip. 1:21-23; 3:20-21; 4:3; Col. 3:4; 2 Tim. 1:12
  - General letters – 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:1-2; 5:13



The Assurance Of Salvation Is Possible
(1 John 5:14)

- **Biblical examples of assurance**
  - **<u>OT – Job 19:25-26; Ps. 23:6</u>**
  - Gospels – John 5:24; 6:47
  - Acts – Acts 16:30-31
  - Paul – Rom. 5:2; 8:23-24; Col. 1:27; Titus 2:13; 2 Cor. 5:8; Philip. 1:21-23; 3:20-21; 4:3; Col. 3:4; 2 Tim. 1:12
  - General letters – 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:1-2; 5:13



The Assurance Of Salvation Is Possible
(1 John 5:14)

- **Biblical examples of assurance**
  - OT – Job 19:25-26; Ps. 23:6
  - **Gospels – John 5:24; 6:47**
  - Acts – Acts 16:30-31
  - Paul – Rom. 5:2; 8:23-24; Col. 1:27; Titus 2:13; 2 Cor. 5:8; Philip. 1:21-23; 3:20-21; 4:3; Col. 3:4; 2 Tim. 1:12
  - General letters – 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:1-2; 5:13



John 5:24

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and **believes Him** who sent Me, **has eternal life**, and does not come into judgment, but **has passed out** of death into life."



The Assurance Of Salvation Is Possible
(1 John 5:14)

- **Biblical examples of assurance**
  - OT – Job 19:25-26; Ps. 23:6
  - Gospels – John 5:24; 6:47
  - **Acts – Acts 16:30-31**
  - Paul – Rom. 5:2; 8:23-24; Col. 1:27; Titus 2:13; 2 Cor. 5:8; Philip. 1:21-23; 3:20-21; 4:3; Col. 3:4; 2 Tim. 1:12
  - General letters – 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:1-2; 5:13



The Assurance Of Salvation Is Possible
(1 John 5:14)

- **Biblical examples of assurance**
  - OT – Job 19:25-26; Ps. 23:6
  - Gospels – John 5:24; 6:47
  - Acts – Acts 16:30-31
  - **Paul – Rom. 5:2; 8:23-24; Col. 1:27; Titus 2:13; 2 Cor. 5:8; Philip. 1:21-23; 3:20-21; 4:3; Col. 3:4; 2 Tim. 1:12**
  - General letters – 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:1-2; 5:13



Romans 8:23-24

"[23] And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body**. [24] For in **hope** we have been saved, but **hope** that is seen is not **hope**; for who **hopes** for what he *already* sees?"



Biblical Hope

ἐλπίς elpís – Not anxious wishing or uncertainty but rather confident assurance of something yet future.



Not an “I hope so” mentality but rather an “I know so” mindset.

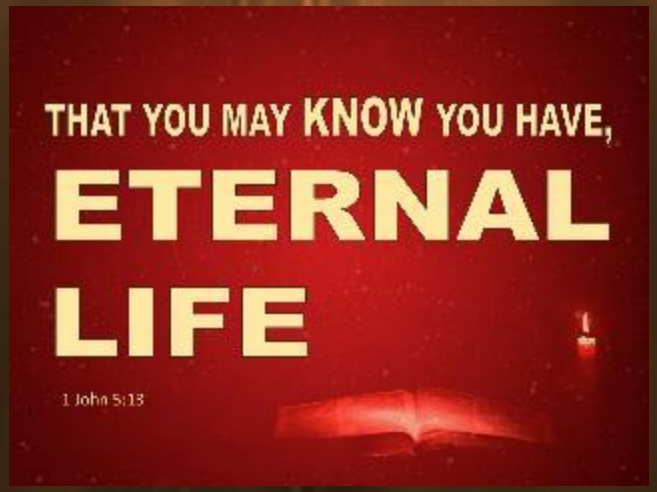
The Assurance Of Salvation Is Possible
(1 John 5:14)

- **Biblical examples of assurance**
  - OT – Job 19:25-26; Ps. 23:6
  - Gospels – John 5:24; 6:47
  - Acts – Acts 16:30-31
  - Paul – Rom. 5:2; 8:23-24; Col. 1:27; Titus 2:13; 2 Cor. 5:8; Philip. 1:21-23; 3:20-21; 4:3; Col. 3:4; 2 Tim. 1:12
  - **General letters – 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:1-2; 5:13**



1 John 5:13

"These things I have **written** to **you** who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may **know** that you **have** eternal life."





Hannah Whitall Smith

Every-Day Religion: The Common Sense Teaching of the Bible (1893), p. 5.

"In the first chapter of Numbers we are told that only those Israelites who could 'declare their pedigree' might be numbered among the men of war; and in the second chapter of Ezra no one who could not 'find his register' and 'reckon his genealogy,' was allowed to exercise the office of priest. Any doubts and uncertainties on these points made them 'as polluted,' and consequently unfit to serve (see Num. 1:2, 17, 18; 2:2; Ezra 2:62, 63). I believe the same thing is also true of Christians now. We can neither be numbered among the Lord's soldiers, nor enter into priestly relations with Him, until we also can 'declare our pedigree' as children of God, and 'reckon our genealogy' as being born of Him."

DTS Doctrinal Statement
Article XI—Assurance

"We believe it is the privilege, not only of some, but of **all** by the Spirit through faith who are born again in Christ as revealed in the Scriptures, to be **assured** of their salvation from the **very day** they take Him to be their Savior and that this assurance is **not** founded upon any fancied discovery of their own **worthiness** or fitness, but wholly upon the testimony of God in His **written Word**, exciting within His children filial love..."

Lewis Sperry Chafer

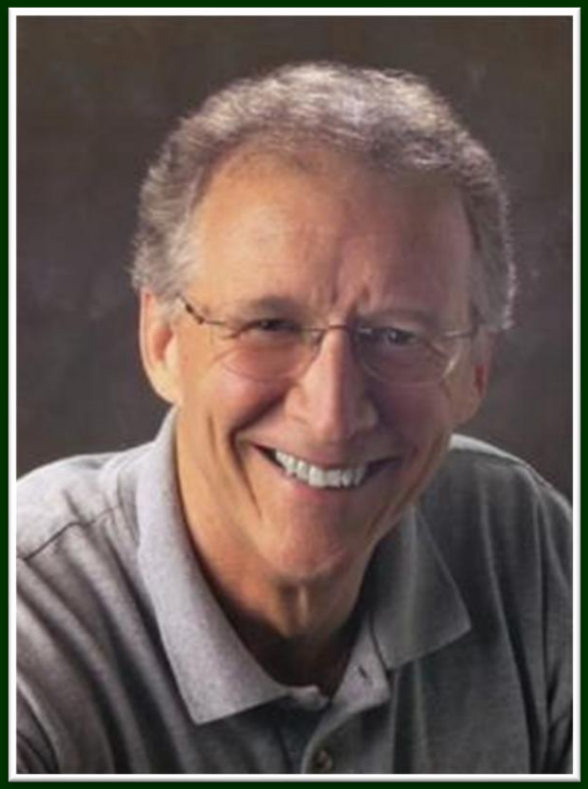
Salvation: A Clear Doctrinal Analysis
(Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1977), 60. Italics added



"There is a normal Christian experience. There are new and blessed emotions and desires. Old things do pass away; and behold all things do become new; but ***all such experiences are but secondary evidences***, as to the fact of salvation, in that they grow out of that positive repose of faith which is the primary evidence."

John Piper

John Piper and Pastoral Staff, TULIP: What We Believe about the Five Points of Calvinism: Position Paper of the Pastoral Staff (Desiring God Ministries, 1997), 25, cited in Dave Hunt, What Love is This?, 379.



"No Christian can be sure that he is a true believer. Hence, there is an ongoing need to be dedicated to the Lord and to deny ourselves so that we might make it."

Popularity of the Charismatic Movement?

1. Attracts those who are drawn to miraculous experiences rather than simple trust in Christ & His Word
2. Attracts those who have a difficult time trusting God through life's adversities
3. Attracts those discontent with gradual progressive sanctification
4. Attracts those lacking salvation's assurance
5. **Attracts those not wanting to worship God in truth**
6. Attracts those desiring authority over others



2 Timothy 4:3-4

“3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.”



Popularity of the Charismatic Movement?

1. Attracts those who are drawn to miraculous experiences rather than simple trust in Christ & His Word
2. Attracts those who have a difficult time trusting God through life's adversities
3. Attracts those discontent with gradual progressive sanctification
4. Attracts those lacking salvation's assurance
5. Attracts those not wanting to worship God in truth
6. **<u>Attracts those desiring authority over others</u>**



Conclusion

Four Questions

1. What are some general observations about spiritual gifts?
2. Are all the spiritual gifts for today?
3. **What are the spiritual gifts?**
4. How do we discover our own unique area of gifting?

