

We can Know!

(A few thoughts on doubting your salvation)

6.7.26

Part 1

I. A few thoughts on doubting your salvation

A. We do not have to doubt our salvation

I John 5:13 I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

B. Doubting our salvation can be an effective tool for evaluating our spiritual condition

II Cor 13:5 Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith. Examine yourselves. Or do you yourselves not recognize that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless you fail the test.^[a]

C. Scripture has much to say about doubt but however we must approach the subject with grace

D. Maybe we need to reframe our concern into a better question?

Many say...I am not sure I am saved.

Vs

Why do I think I am saved?

II Peter 1:10 Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble.

II. Why do we doubt our salvation?

A. We may have undealt with sin

Heb 12:1 Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us,

Isa 59:12 But your iniquities are separating you from your God,
and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not listen.

B. We may be experiencing Satan's attack

Revelation 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say,

The salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Christ
have now come,
because the accuser of our brothers and sisters,
who accuses them
before our God day and night,
has been thrown down.

C. We may be having memory issues

Although my memory's fading, I remember two things very clearly: I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior.

John Newton

1. Child conversions

Mark 10:14⁴ When Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me. Don’t stop them, because the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

2. Physiological issues that relate to memory

--The normal aging process

--Brain trauma / illness

--Alzheimer’s dementia

D. We may be basing our salvation on feelings and not faith.

Rom 10:13¹³ For **everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**

Heb 11: 6 Now without faith it is impossible to please God, since the one who draws near to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

II Tim 1:12 and that is why I suffer these things. But I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to guard what has been entrusted to me^[a] until that day.

E. We may not understand the constant struggle with our new nature and our old.

1. How can I be saved if am always tempted?

2. How can I be saved if I struggle with sin still?

Romans 7: ¹⁸For I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do what is good is with me, but there is no ability to do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good that I want to do, but I practice the evil that I do not want to do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, I am no longer the one that does it, but it is the sin that lives in me.

F. We may be comparing ourselves to a “super Christian”

Galatians 6:4-5 ⁴Let each person examine his own work, and then he can take pride in himself alone, and not compare himself with someone else. ⁵For each person will have to carry his own load.

Close:

“Someday you will read or hear that Billy Graham is dead. Don’t you believe a word of it. I shall be more alive than I am now. I will just have changed my address. I will have gone into the presence of God.” Billy Graham