# Confidence in Heaven

The **Bible** says that **Salvation** is just like **Marriage**.

It is a Contract & a Relationship.

Just **Keep Growing**!

# Style of writing!

I love bullet points!

Don't talk me to death.

Give me your bottom line first and then make your explanation brief. That is why:

- My table of contents gives the main subjects!
- ➤ The Intro. briefly answers each question in the booklet.
- ➤ The chapters are brief studies, filling in each point.

# **Table of Contents**

- 1. Eph. 5:22-32 5 Times Marriage is a Picture of Salvation
- 2. Just Keep Growing



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#### Intro – Overview

# Eph. 5:22-32 – 8 Times Marriage is a Picture of Salvation Why are Beth and I so CONFIDENT in our Marriage? (Expanded study in chap. 1 – pg. 1)

# 2. Just **Keep Growing**

This is where the Bible verses are so Strong. (Expanded study in chap. 2 – pg. 3)

#### Chap. 1

# Eph. 5:22-32

# 8 Times Marriage is a Picture of Salvation

Eph. 5:22-32 Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.

Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— for we are members of his body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

This is the **longest** passage in the Bible on Marriage. **Eight** separate times Paul emphasizes that the **contract** of Marriage is the **best picture** of the contract of **Salvation**.

Beth and I have been married over 4 decades. Marriage to Beth is heaven on earth and we have an absolutely fantastic marriage. We both have **great confidence** that our **marriage** will continue and **succeed**.

# WHY do Beth & I have such Confidence in our Marriage?

There are Two Reasons.

- 1. We understand the **Contract** of Marriage.
  - The marriage contract includes treasuring each other above all other human relationships.
- 2. We seek to **GROW Every Day** in our Relationship.

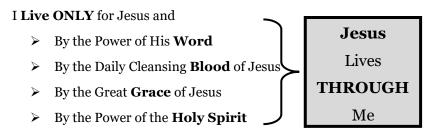
Marriage is a living thing. It is either growing or dying. Every day we seek to serve and love each other more, with all of our hearts.

#### Confidence in Salvation has the Same Two Factors.

In the booklet titled: "Will Half-way Christians go to Hell?" we dive deeply into the Contract of Salvation. It is very clear in the Bible.

Jesus and I TRADE Places.

- ➤ He took **MY** place on the Cross
- ➤ I take **HIS** place on the Earth (*In His PURPOSE in Life*)



All the **Joy**, **Passion**, **Power** & **Peace** of Jesus comes when we give Him **Everything** and **live ONLY** for Him!

God's Written Word is so Clear on the Contract of 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**.

#### Chap. 2

#### **Just Keep Growing**

There are **So Many verses** in the Bible that emphasize that **Growing** our Relationship with Jesus is the Core of our Confidence in Heaven.

When we remember that our Only Purpose in life is to bring people to Jesus, we **don't just attend** church. We recognize that we don't go to church to **BE** served but to **Serve Others** to **Grow** God's Kingdom.

I Tim. 3:13 makes this extremely clear.

I Tim. 3:13 Those who have **served well gain** an excellent standing and **great assurance** in their **faith** 

In II Peter 1, Peter goes into Great Detail about GROWING in verses 5-7.

II Peter 1:5-7 For this very reason, make every effort to **ADD** to your faith goodness; and **(Add)** to goodness, knowledge; and **(Add)** to knowledge, self-control; and **(Add)** to self-control, perseverance; and **(Add)** to perseverance, godliness; and **(Add)** to godliness, brotherly kindness; and **(Add)** to brotherly kindness, love.

In the next verse, Peter again **EMPHASIZES** that these traits must **INCREASE Continually** in our Lives.

II Peter 1:8 For if you possess these qualities in *Increasing* measure, they will keep you from being ineffective & unproductive

Peter caps it off with Two of the Strongest Verses in the Bible on Confidence in Heaven.

He says that if you just keep growing you will make your **eternal** salvation SURE and you will receive a RICH WELCOME into Heaven!

II Pt. 1:10-11 Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election SURE. For if you do these things, you will never fall, and you will receive a Rich Welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The daily tender relationship with Jesus is guided and led by the Holy Spirit.

Beth and I **stay tender daily** toward each other and **seek** to **serve** and **know** each other **better**, which **daily builds** our **Confidence** in our Marriage.

In the **same way**, our **daily tender obedience** and **walking** with the **Holy Spirit grows** our **Confidence** in our Eternal Salvation.

Rom. 8:16 The **Spirit** himself **Testifies** with **Our Spirit** that **We** are **God's Children** 

Gal. 4:6 Because you are **his sons**, God **sent** the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the **Spirit** who calls out, "**Abba, Father**."

Eph. 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were **marked** in him with a **seal**, the **promised Holy Spirit**,

1 John 4:13 And he has put his own Holy Spirit into our hearts as a proof to us that we are living with him and he with us.

#### Conclusion!

This is every verse in the Bible on Confidence in Heaven.

Just **like** in a **Marriage**, we Grow in **Confidence** as we **Grow** in our **Relationship** with **Jesus**.

We also have 100+ booklet studies coming out.

Here is a sample list of 10 of our booklets.

## 1. Bible Reading:

#### The Secrets to Sweetness in God's Word!

This study shows how a One Year Bible enables you to cover the entire Bible in one year. In addition, it shows how hunger-based reading is so different from performance-based reading.

#### 2. The Blood of Jesus:

#### The Most Powerful Words Ever Spoken

This study teaches us to daily live with a clean heart and to keep short accounts when we stumble.

#### 3. Bosses - What They Wish You Knew

This study gives us a bigger picture of the pressures and responsibilities that are carried by every boss.

# 4. Christianity – the ONLY Logical Religion

This study compares Christianity to all other religions and shows why only Christianity answers the hard questions.

# 5. Conflicts - How to Remove All Strife from My Life!

The Bible teaches that truth is a belt, and our perspective is a belt loop.

#### 6. The Cross - The Story of the Last 24 Hours

This study combines all four gospels to examine the last 24 hours and what happened on the cross.

#### 7. Grace - the Power to WANT to do Right!

This study teaches us to release God's Grace constantly so that God can change our hearts and give us HIS desires.

#### 8. Marriage – 3 Bottom Lines!

Six times the Bible says that the purpose of Marriage is for the two to become one.

# 9. Science & the Bible - How They Agree

Many modern scientific breakthroughs were predicted and practiced in the Bible thousands of years ago.

#### 10. Test Yourself:

#### Do your Life Goals bring you LIFE?

Finish the sentence "I Want ..." and see what you get.

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