

how can i know i am saved?

you asked for it | week seven

post falls campus | july 23rd & 26th | jim putman



Assurance of salvation

- There is salvation; a real heaven and earth
- There is a way to get there through Jesus
- By grace through faith
- Series: One Minute After You Die
- Unfortunately, some think they are going to be there, but they are not
- But this question often comes from Christians who struggle to have confidence

John 14:1-6 (NIV)

The question – can I know I am going to heaven? Eternally secure –Yes

1st The Gospel

- What is faith?
- Biblical belief produces repentance
- Jesus is God and God's Son
- We cannot believe in less than the faith, but mere believing in the facts is not faith by itself
- He is a Lord who saves; He is the one who decides truth and the one who saves those who have decided He is truth and decides truth
- Faith produces repentance that produces growing obedience
- Some have distorted the Christian faith

John 3:16 (NIV) | Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV)

Can you be assured of salvation through faith

Colossians 1:21-24 (NIV) | Romans 1:5-6 (NIV) | James 2:14-16 (NIV)

John McArthur commentary on Colossians: “Saving faith is carefully defined in scripture and needs to be understood because there is a dead, non-saving faith that provides false security. True saving faith contains repentance and obedience as its elements”.

Luke 13:3 (NIV) | Acts 2:37-38 (NIV) | 2 Peter 3:9

2. Supporting texts centered around the idea of faithful faith – with warnings

Romans 11:20-22 (NIV) | 1 Corinthians 15:1-2 | Galatians 5:1-4 | John 8:31 | Matthew 24:9-13 (NIV) | Hebrews 2:1-4

- Other book of Hebrews texts—3:7 through 4:13, 5:11 through 6:12, 10:19-39, 12:14-29,

3rd Possible Insecurity

- How do I have assurance of my salvation?

Some believe they are saved when they are not, and some are insecure and shouldn't be.
See Matthew 25

Revelation 3:17 (NIV)

The Eternal security debate

- A. The two sides of the theological debate
 1. Eternal security side
 2. The Other side
- B. Both sides agree that you know a tree by its fruit | **Matthew 7:15–20 (NIV)**
- C. The Holy Spirit's work – pre-Christ
 - NIV – "prove the world to be in the wrong"
 - ESV – "convict the world"

The Greek word is ἐλέγχω (elegchō); It means: expose, convince, bring to light, show someone their guilt, prove them wrong, bring conviction

John 3:19–21 (NIV)

- D. After you receive Christ --Both sides agree that we still struggle with sin but do not live in sin
 - For the eternal security people (when we struggle with sin), we ask, did we ever truly get in?—we forget that we are saved by Jesus and His sacrifice – we need it every day
 - For the other side – those who believe they can lose salvation – did I get out when I struggle with sin? NO! We all struggle with sin

John 3:5–7 (NIV) | 1 John 3:9 (NIV) Galatians 5:19–24 | 1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (NIV)

- E. How do I attain assurance of salvation when I have become a Christian?
 - How do I know if I have the Holy Spirit?
 - You know you have faith by what?
 - The fact that you do not want to sin any longer

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV)

So how do I know if I am saved?

- Do you believe the facts of the gospel --you review what belief is and that you are believing
 - I do have "the faith" that was once for all entrusted to the saints – Jude 3 Galatians 1:6-8
 - You have the Holy Spirit of God using the word of God to cause us to desire I have trusted IN Jesus for my salvation – He is God's Son and has died for my sin
 - He is my Lord – I care about His will for my life and have lived a different trajectory than I did before I surrendered to Christ
- Does the Holy Spirit convict me of sin –and do I respond in repentance

Galatians 5:16–17 (NIV) | Hebrews 4:12–13 (NIV) | 2 Corinthians 7:8–11 (NIV) | 1 John 1:8–2:2 (NIV)

- The fruit of the Spirit is in our lives – we are sensing the Lord's heart towards others, and we are surrendering to His view

Galatians 5:22–26 (NIV) | 1 John 4:20–21 (NIV) | James 1:22 (NIV)

Things to focus on

1. Have you accepted Jesus – the gospel by grace through faith
2. Abide in Christ daily
3. Be careful not to judge yourself or others based on a snapshot rather than a trajectory
4. Make sure you have help in assessing your position with Christ – Hebrews 3:12-13

