

Blessed Assurance Pt. 2 - Evidence of Saving Grace

Believers can look for the present and continuous work of the Holy Spirit in their lives as evidence they belong to Christ.

Intro:

- Review of Part 1
- Jonathon Edwards wrote:
 - "The principle evidence of saving grace is holy living."

1. Fellowship with the Father, Son, and Spirit:

- **1 John 1:1-3:**
 - Fellowship means to have a participation with one another.
 - Bible Reading/Study, Prayer
 - Salvation produces a new relationship.

2. Honest about our sin:

- **1 John 1:5-10**

- Honest about being saved by grace and still struggling with sin.
- Confess, Repent, Seek Forgiveness.
- Fellowship will be restored.

3. Obedient Living:

- **1 John 2:3-6**
 - **Actively striving to live as Jesus did.**
 - **In all areas of daily thought and action.**

4. No love for the world:

- **1 John 2:15-17**

- No love or affection for the system of evil governed by Satan.
- We were redeemed by Christ from that way of life.
- Hunger and thirst for righteousness and purity.

5. Lack of habitual continual sin:

- **1 John 3:9-10; Romans 6:14, 17**
- True believers are broken by and repent of sin.
- The shameless unrepentant practice of sin is not what believers do.
- Believers controlled by the Spirit.

6. Hope to see Christ:

- **1 John 3:2-3; 2 Timothy 4:8**
- **Believers who belong to Christ long to be like Him and with Him.**
- **Believers who belong to Christ strive to live pure lives.**

7. Love for fellow believers:

- 1 John 2:9-10; 3:10, 14-15**
- Believers are committed to and sacrifice for each other.**
- Believers allow other believers to love and serve them.**

8. Prayers are answered:

- **1 John 3:21-22; 5:14-15**
 - Believers want what God wants and pray for God's will to be done.
 - Living victoriously for Christ is a prayer answered by God.

9. Hated by the world:

- **1 John 3:13; Philippians 1:29;
John 15:18-19**

- **Being loved by the world is a problem.**
- **Persecution is one of the most tangible evidences of saving faith.**

So, believers...

-trust the truth of Scripture more than your feelings.

- can be confident that our salvation is secure and that our faith is real if we and others see evidence of faith in our lives.

So, believers...

- can trust that if we are not seeing this evidence that we can turn to Christ, repent, seek forgiveness, and find His reassuring mercy and grace.