

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

TEXT: I John 5:13

INTRODUCTION: The book of I John uses a different method of teaching than Romans or Ephesians. Paul's books are written in such a way where he tells you why he is writing, a point is made to prove what he is writing, he develops that reason and then he goes on. John on the other hand doesn't even tell you what his central theme is until the end. He does give a couple of benefits of that theme in chapter one (see 1:4 and 2:1); but the theme is given in 5:13. He gives basically four proofs of salvation to look for in your life in chapter 2 and then comes back to these proofs in different ways repeating and proving again his point.

I. WHO SHOULD HAVE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION? Those that believe in Christ (Romans 10:9-13).

II. WHAT IS ASSURANCE OF SALVATION?

DEFINE: Being convinced of eternal life.

Explain the difference between eternal security and assurance. Eternal security is a truth that once a person is saved, he is always saved. Assurance is the internal confidence that a believer has that he is saved and on his way to heaven. A believer who is saved may or may not have assurance.

III. WHAT IS THE RESULT OF ASSURANCE?

- A growing belief in Christ.
- Confidence and power in prayer (I John 5:14; 3:21-22)
- The ability to help others (I John 5:16ff).

IV. WHAT THINGS WERE WRITTEN TO GIVE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION?

- I John 2:3-5; 3:8-9
- I John 2:9-11; 3:14
- I John 2:19; 5:4-5
- I John 2:27; 5:20