

SECURE IN CHRIST JESUS

Would that more believers today, especially leaders, realized and appreciated the utter necessity, to say nothing of present and eternal worth, of the **eternal security** of the believer in Christ Jesus.

The Christian unaware of this foundation is spiritually insecure, and this condition usually forces him into a realm of extraneous “blessings,” such as the so-called Baptism of the Spirit; tongues; healing, etc. But the believer who knows and values his eternal security in the Lord Jesus Christ sooner or later finds the Spirit-fostered hunger growing within that leads to growth and maturity—all apart from any “extras”—the Lord Jesus alone being his sufficiency.

“God’s ways are not man’s ways. To some men constant peril is the only spur for action, and many religions and psychologies are dependent on fear to keep their disciples in line. Fear, too, has a place in Christianity, but God has higher and more effective motivations than fear, and one of these is love. Often fear after a while produces only numbness, but love thrives on love. To promise a man the certainty of his destiny may seem, on the human level, like playing with fire; **but this leaves God out of the picture.** Those who have the deepest appreciation of grace do not continue in sin. Moreover, fear produces the obedience of slaves; love engenders the obedience of sons. Calvinism may be a stumbling block to some, but, contrary to human expectations, it has produced great saints who were driven to holiness, not by fear of apostatizing, but by the love of God.” —J. W. S.

On the negative side, the first principle of safety from spiritual danger and ruin is to **avoid** all Bible classes, prayer groups, church services, etc., where the eternal security of the believer is **not** clearly and firmly taught and honored—eternal security apart from certain “conditions.” This safety measure cuts a wide swath across the present scene! But there is no other sound and honorable stand. “Stand therefore.....”

As for the positive side of this all-important issue, the first principle is to find out, via the Word, exactly what one has in the Lord Jesus Christ, and then simply rest in Him upon that basis. “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in

the knowledge of Him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may **know** what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power," (Eph. 1:17-19).

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"If you recognize as true

that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Saviour because He is God the Son Who became the Son of Man, and as such bore in His body the sins of the world;

And if you rest in Him

in self-surrender for fellowship, relying with confidence on Him alone for deliverance from the guilt and penalty of your sins and from the power of indwelling sin:

Then there are **Twelve Proofs** that you can never be lost:

1. Because in the eternal, sure **Purpose** of God you are a 'vessel of mercy' and will finally be 'conformed to the image of His Son' (Rom. 9:32; 8:29).
2. Because God's **Infinite Power** is no longer hindered by your sins, but can wholly keep you safe, for the Blood of Christ still removes your guilt (I John 2:2).
3. Because **God's Love** for you, supremely expressed at Calvary, can now be manifested 'much more' and so accomplish His every desire for you (Rom. 5:8-10).
4. Because of His delight in the Son, God can never reject **The Prayer Of The Son** asking Him to keep 'those whom Thou hast given Me' (John 17:9, 11).

5. Because **The Death Of The Son**, having a value equivalent to the punishment demanded for all your sins, has paid also for sins you now commit (Rom. 8:1, 34).
6. Because by the **Resurrection Of Christ** God has separated your connection with Adam and joined you to Christ for acceptance and life (Col. 2:12,13; 3:9, 10).
7. Because, although your sin could hurl you into Hell, Christ as your **Advocate** defends you (Heb. 9:24, 26b).
8. Because Christ 'ever liveth **To Make Intercession** for you,' Satan has no power to unsave you (Heb. 7:23, 25).
9. Because the Holy Spirit has taken over your body as His **Personal, Permanent Home** (John 14:16,17).
10. Because the Holy Spirit has planted in you **The Very Life Of God**, making God your real Father (John 1:13).
11. Because the Holy Spirit has now united you with Christ and you are **A Very Part Of Himself** (I Cor. 12:13).
12. Because the Holy Spirit in you is the **Seal** that your salvation is a finished transaction (Eph. 4:30).

Though your present sins cannot unsave you, remember there are **Other Penalties** you bring upon yourself, the least of which is chastisement (child training) at your Father's hands (Heb. 12:6)."

The Christian who is **not sure** of his eternal security in the Lord Jesus has already taken the first step into the "holiness" realm, with all that that means. This can also apply to those who take their security for granted, without clear Scriptural knowledge of the wonderful fact.

(Dr. H.A. Ironside's "Eternal Security" is recommended, and is available at many Christian bookstores.)