

.....And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.....

The Assurance of God's Children

We have received the grace of salvation. If however, we have no assurance that we have become children of God, all our Christian living would not only be a lie but we will also not receive any answers. Our Christian living starts from the assurance of salvation. Are you a child of God? If it is, where is the evidence? Do you possess the eternally unshaken evidence? If you possess the assurance of salvation, God's abundant covenant, which the whole Bible spoke about, is all yours.

1. Many believers are shaken because they do not have the assurance of salvation

- 1) Some misunderstand that they are the ones who chose God
- 2) Some seek out and confirm assurance of salvation from one's changeable knowledge, condition, experience, works, etc
- 3) Some misunderstand that the foundation of [assurance of salvation] depends on the firmness of one's faith
- 4) Some possess the wrong theological teaching: stating that salvation would be lost through the forfeiting of one's faith
- 5) Therefore, every time when one's condition is shaken, the assurance of salvation gets shaken

2. Our salvation is solely the work of God from the beginning till the end <Eph 1:3-14>

- 1) Just as it is not the son who chose the father, salvation is about God giving birth to us, making us His children <Ps 2:7>. The assurance of salvation should be sought out from the evidence of my birth by God
- 2) God has already chosen us to be His children before the creation of the world <Eph 1:4>
- 3) God determined the time to form us in our mother's womb and send us to earth <Ac 17:26>
- 4) While we were still sinners, God prepared the way for salvation through Christ <Ro 5:8>
- 5) God sent 'gospel angels' to tell me about the gospel
- 6) God's spirit made me hunger and thirst, comprehend, believe, and thus accept the gospel <1Co 12:3>
- 7) At the moment I believe and repent to accept Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit enters and dwells in my heart <Eph 1:13-14>
- 8) God's Word and the Holy Spirit lead me forever irregardless of my condition <Php 1:6>

3. After death and resurrection, I became a new creation <1 Co 5: 17>

- 1) Newly created life → Dwelling place of the Holy Spirit <1Co 3:16>, Christ body <Eph 1:23>, Holy Kingdom <1Pe 2:9>, light and salt of the world <Mt 5:13-14>
- 2) Identity changed totally → Child of God <Jn 1:12>, Saint <Ro 1:7>, Royal Priest <1Pe 2:9>
- 3) Belonging changed totally → Heavenly throne <Eph 2:6>, Heavenly citizens <Php 3:20>, Book of life <Lk 10:20>
- 4) Guider changed totally → God's Word and the Holy Spirit <Jn 14:26-27>, Ministering of the angels <Heb 1:14; Mt 18:10>
- 5) Law of life and living changed totally → Law of life and Spirit <Ro 8:2; Ro 7:6>
- 6) Destiny changed totally → All things work for the good

7) Eternal inheritance changed totally → Gather the people of the heavenly kingdom and establish the kingdom of God <Mt 28:18-20; 1Th 2: 19>

4. At the same time, many clear evidences also manifest <Eph 1:13-14; Ro 8:1-39>

1) Because the Holy Spirit works, the faith is gradually strengthened, thus follow the bearing of the 9 fruits of the Spirit <Gal 5:22-23>

2) Hunger and thirst for God's Word; the reading of the Bible becomes as sweet as honey

3) Converse with God through His Word and the Holy Spirit; prayers will surely be answered

4) Concerns and interests change; crave for Holy living; naturally hate and depart far from sin

5) Love those who are in the body of Christ and have mercy for unbelieving friends and relatives.

6) Like to testify about the God whom one meets personally

* The evidences above are the results that will surely appear for God's blessedly saved children who have received the assurance of salvation. It however, cannot become the basis for [assurance of salvation]. Therefore, do remember: From the moment you receive [assurance of salvation], you will then possess and be able to experience the abundant life and power in Christ.