

Wisdom of the Bible ~ Assurance of Salvation ~ Leader's Guide

1. The Bible tells us there are nine things of which we can be sure. They are:

- A) Our calling and election (2 Peter 1:10a)
- B) God's abiding love (Romans 8:38-39)
- C) Being God's children (Romans 8:16)
- D) Our salvation at the last day (Philippians 1:6)
- E) Our inheritance from God (Hebrews 6:11-12)
- F) Our resurrection and seeing God (Job 19:25-27a)
- G) Seeing our ascended Lord (1 John 3:2)
- H) Receiving a crown of righteousness (2 Timothy 4:8)
- I) Having eternal life (1 John 5:13)

2. How do we obtain assurance of our salvation?

- A) By believing God's word (1 John 5:13 – see I above)
- B) By accepting God's promises (John 3:16, 3:36, 6:39-40)

3. On what is our assurance of salvation founded?

- A) On God choosing us (Ephesians 1:4-8, 1 Thess 1:4)
- B) On God keeping us safe (John 6:39, 10:28-30)
- C) On God's powerful love (Romans 8:35-39)

4. What assures us of our salvation?

- A) The spirit living within us (Romans 8:14-16, Galatians 4:6)
- B) Our faith (Acts 13:48, Romans 3:22a, 30, Ephesians 2:8)
- C) Our hope (Hebrews 6:11, 6:18-19a)
- D) Our life of love and good works (Matthew 7:20, Galatians 5:19-24, 2 Peter 1:5-8, 1 John 3:10-14)

Wisdom of the Bible ~ Assurance of Salvation ~ For Small Groups of 3 or 4

1. “Salvation” and “save” come from the same root. In the Bible, salvation can sometimes mean A) to save or rescue from physical danger (Daniel 6:27, Matthew 8:25), B) save or rescue from personal enemies (Psalm 18:3, 59:2), C) deliverance from political enemies (Exodus 14:13, Psalm 106:8-11), D) healing or relief from sickness (Mark 6:56, James 5:15), and, most commonly, E) deliverance from sin.

2. Salvation as deliverance from sin has three aspects:

A) The past: “have been saved” (Ephesians 2:8, 2 Timothy 1:9, Titus 3:5)

B) The present: “are being saved” (Acts 2:47, 1 Corinthians 1:18)

C) The future: “will be saved” (Romans 13:11, 1 Peter 1:5)

3. Focusing on salvation as deliverance from sin, how do we receive it? A) It is a gift from God, B) Jesus earned it for us by his death on the cross, C) You can earn it yourself if you obey all of God’s commandments, D) It will come to you if you pray for it.

For (A), see Titus 2:11, Ephesians 2:8

For (B), see 1 John 4:9-10, 1 Peter 1:3

For (C), see 2 Timothy 1:9, Titus 3:5

For (D), see Psalm 85:7, Hebrews 5:7

4. Although some people think salvation is a totally free gift from God, in fact there are some requirements for salvation. You must:

A) Read the scriptures (2 Timothy 3:15)

B) Believe in Jesus Christ (John 3:16, Acts 16:30-31)

C) Repent of your sins (Isaiah 30:15, Acts 2:37-38, 2 Corinthians 7:10)

D) Accept salvation as a gift (Isaiah 55:1, Revelation 21:6)

E) Realize you can do nothing to earn salvation (see Q 3 above)

F) Give our all in response to salvation (Luke 14:33, Philippians 3:7-8)

5. Is the assurance of salvation compatible with::

A) Doubt Yes (Mark 9:23-24)

B) Sin in our life Yes (Galatians 6:1, 1 John 1:8-10)

C) Partial or incomplete understanding of God’s truth Yes
(1 Corinthians 13:8-12)

Wisdom of the Bible ~ Assurance of Salvation ~ Scripture Verses

Scripture verses are New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted.

1. The Bible tells us there are nine things of which we can be sure. They are:

A) 2 Peter 1:10a – Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your *calling and election* sure.

B) Romans 8:38-39 – ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the *love of God* that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

C) Romans 8:16 – The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that *we are God's children*.

D) Philippians 1:6 – being confident of this, that he [God] who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

E) Hebrews 6:11-12 – ¹¹ We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure. ¹² We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience *inherit what has been promised*.

F) Job 19:25-27a – ²⁵ I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. ²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh *I will see God*; ²⁷ I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another.

G) 1 John 3:2 – Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for *we shall see him as he is*.

H) 2 Timothy 4:8 – Now there is in store for me the *crown of righteousness*, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

I) 1 John 5:13 – I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that *you have eternal life*.

2. How do we obtain assurance of our salvation?

A) See I above

B) John 3:16 – For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:36 – Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.

John 6:39-40 – ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰ For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

3. On what is our assurance of salvation founded?

A) Ephesians 1:4-8 – ⁴For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

1 Thess 1:4 – For we know, brothers loved by God, that *he has chosen you...*

B) John 6:39 – And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.

John 10:28-30 – ²⁸I give them eternal life, and *they shall never perish*; no one can snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one.

C) Romans 8:35-39 – ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the *love of God* that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

4. What assures us of our salvation?:

A) Romans 8:14-16 – ¹⁴because those who are *led by the Spirit of God* are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Galatians 4:6 – Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.”

B) Acts 13:48 – When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

Romans 3:22a – This righteousness from God comes through *faith in Jesus Christ* to all who believe.

Romans 3:30 – since there is only one God, who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith.

Ephesians 2:8 – For it is by grace *you have been saved, through faith*—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

C) Hebrews 6:11 – We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to *make your hope sure*.

Hebrews 6:18-19a – ¹⁸God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in

which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the *hope offered to us* may be greatly encouraged. ¹⁹ We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

D) Matthew 7:20 – Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

Galatians 5:19-24 – ¹⁹ The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.

2 Peter 1:5-8 – ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶ and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷ and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. ⁸ For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 John 3:10-14 – ¹⁰ This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.

¹¹ This is the message you heard from the beginning: *We should love one another.* ¹² Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. ¹³ Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that *we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers.* Anyone who does not love remains in death.