

# STUDY GUIDE ON ASSURANCE

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I. A study of assurance requires an understanding of the relationship between four sets of variables:

- (1) Objective-subjective evidence. Objective refers to the real basis upon which our assurance rests; subjective refers to whether we feel assured of salvation.
- (2) Primary-confirmatory evidence. Primary evidence fits only with one conclusion; confirmatory evidence fits with the correct conclusion, but it might fit with other possibilities as well.
- (3) Absolute-relative. Absolute certainty means there is no possibility of doubt; relative certainty is the kind that is sufficient for practical purposes.
- (4) Now-later. Our assurance about our present state of salvation and our present assurance about our salvation later in life

Passages relative to the question of assurance are Hebrews **9:11ff**; **10:1ff**; **6:13-20**; 2 Peter **3:9**; Matthew **19:26**; John **10:29**; **3:16**; Hebrews **10:19-22**; Acts **26:19**; 1 Timothy **1:13**; 1 John **3:17-22**; Judges **16:20**; 1 Corinthians **10:22**; John **16:2**; Romans **10:1-2**; Ezekiel **3:20**; **18:24, 26**; **33:12-13**; Romans **11:19-22**; 1 Corinthians **9:27**; **10:12**; Philippians **4:3**; Hebrews **6:4-8**; **10:26-29**; 2 Peter **2:21-22**; Revelation **3:5**; **21:27**; **22:19**.

From cross references or a concordance, add to these passages other citations of similar import as well as any that add to the thought expressed in them.

II. What does assurance of salvation not depend on?

- (1) Acts **17:30**; Romans **2:5**; **5:13**; *etc.*
- (2) 1 John **1:8-10**; *etc.*

What does assurance of salvation depend on?

- (1) 1 John **3:24b**; **5:2**; *etc.*
- (2) 1 John **5:18**; **2:24, 3-6**; **1:10**; 1 John **3:14, 18-19**; **2:9-11**; **4:8, 16**.

What are some indications of sincerity to do God's will? Explain why you would or would not defend the statement "sincerity will save you."