

CHRISTIAN UNION THE POLYTECHNIC, IBADAN

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WORKERS FOUNDATION SERIES 1

1.0.0 Assurance of salvation

Memory Verse: 1John 5:13

INTRODUCTION: WHY DO I NEED TO BE ASSURED OF MY SALVATION?

Sin brings condemnation and destruction therefore we must be saved and also be assured of our salvation. Many people who get converted to Christianity usually have doubt as far as their salvation is concerned. Many feel saved and unsaved the next moment and this manifest in their continuing to answer alter call and harbor a sense of guilt. But you have to understand that there is nothing a man can receive from God by faith that the devil will not contest. He usually seek to cast out doubt on the work God has wrought in a heart. There's therefore no obvious need to assure (put beyond all doubt) a convert of his salvation.

To do this we must resort to the **WORD OF GOD** and our prayer is that as we know what God said, you will be assured that you are saved to the point that no effort of the devil will make you doubt again.

WHY DO MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE RECEIVED CHRIST GO IN AND OUT?

1.0 INCOMPLETE REPENTANCE

1.1 What is repentance? _____

(Act 26:18-20, 1thess 1:9, Isa 55:7-8, Luke 15:11-32) Have you repented? _____

What did you repent from?

Particularly, what is repentance from dead work? (Heb 6:1) many people associate repentance primarily with emotions – shedding tears, remorse, anguish, etc. Others associate repentance with carrying out special religious rites and ordinance. It is therefore important for us to understand clearly the scriptural meaning of the word. Repentance is a change of heart and involve a turning. A turning away from darkness and Satan to light and Jesus.

Dead works (these include religious rituals and other activities, like giving, preaching, etc. done by unconverted men) is part of darkness. Genuine repentance always precedes scriptural faith. (Mk 1:15, Acts 2:37-38, Acts 20:20-21). Many a time when a person's faith seems to be shaky, so you need to ensure that you have repented completely from your sins, put your faith in **CHRIST** and confess **HIM** with your mouth. If you have done this from the heart, you have received **JESUS** and you are saved.

1.1.0 IGNORANCE

Several times the devil uses ignorance to deceive and confuse many concerning their salvation.

MANY WANT A SIGN OR FEELING OR SOMETHING DRAMATIC. Salvation is a free gift and a work of the Holy Spirit. There are three things that assure a man about salvation, namely: the witness or testimony of the word of God, the witness of the Holy Spirit and the evidence of a new life.

1.2.1 The witness of the word of God.

(a) You are required to simply believe what the word of God says about your salvation. (Eph 2:8-9, John 3:16, 5:24, John 3:5&8, Titus 3:5). How did you receive your own salvation? What did you do? _____

(b) Meditate on John 6:37. What do you discover? Have you come to JESUS in simple repentance and faith? _____

Salvation cost nothing. It is a free gift of God and the work of God and the work of the Holy Spirit. You do not need to understand how it happens, only to believe. If you have come to **JESUS** in accordance with **HIS WORD** in simple repentance and faith, HIS promise is never to send you away. Nothing dramatic may have happened on the day you put your faith in JESUS to save you but as long as you did so from your heart, you are saved.

(c) Meditate on 1John 5:11-13 (Look it up from different version). What did you discover? Are you sure that you are save? Do you sometimes feel saved and sometimes unsaved? Why did the HOLY SPIRIT put down this passage for you? _____

It is clear from the above study that salvation proceeds from God and not man. It is therefore based on the **WORD OF GOD** and not on human feelings. The human being by nature lives on the plane of feelings while the new creation (Believer) lives by faith, which originates from the **WORD** you must therefore cast aside every doubt, believe what the **WORD OF GOD** says about the steps you have taken.

1.2.2 The witness of the Holy Spirit. Rom 8:9,14-16; Eph.1:13-14

When you are saved, you are justified and reconciled with God. There is no more condemnation. You now have peace with God (Rom 5:1;8:1) there will be an inner witness, the Holy Spirit Himself agreeing with your spirit that you are a child of God.

1.2.3 The evidence of a new life. 2Cor.5:17, Col. 3:4

The NEW LIFE you have received from Christ will begin to show forth itself in a new behavior. The things you used to do, you now do them no more. There is a change of life and everybody can see (Behold) and testify. May God grant you grace to continue in the new life until Christ comes. Amen!