

UNLOCKING THE TRUTH ABOUT
ETERNAL SECURITY

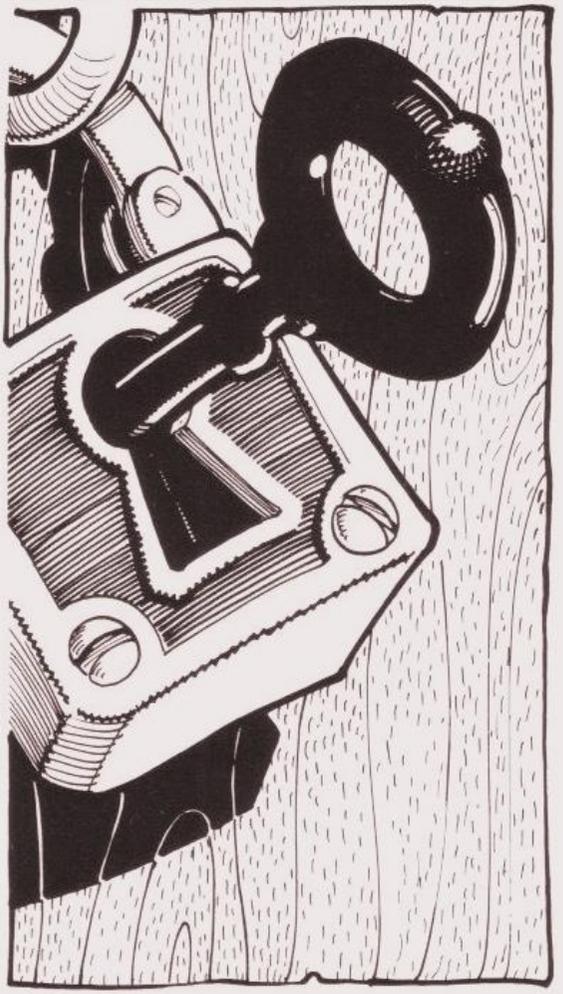
By Kenneth Chapman

A
DISCIPLESHIP
COURSE

LESSON TWO

“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

John 8:31-32



INTRODUCTION



CONGRATULATIONS! I want to congratulate you for completing Lesson One in our Discipleship Course. In this second lesson we will be Unlocking the truth about Eternal Security. Jesus said, *"And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither*

shall any man pluck them out of my hand" (John 10:28). The Apostle Paul wrote: *"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began"* (Titus 1:2).

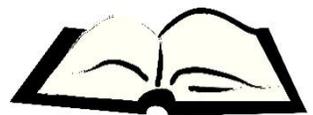
This booklet was written to help answer the question, "Can a person lose their salvation?" Because there is much confusion and misinterpretation concerning this subject, we will be searching the Scriptures to see what the Bible teaches concerning our "Blessed Assurance."

"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever" (Isaiah 32:17).

INSTRUCTIONS: Read each section carefully. Fill in the blanks by looking up the Scriptures in your Bible (All Scripture quotations are from the King James Bible). This will help you to understand what God says about eternal security. Also, before beginning this study, please take a moment and pray with the Psalmist: *"Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law"* (Psalm 119:18).

If you have any questions, please ring me at 0405603201

God Bless!
Kenneth Chapman



ETERNAL SECURITY

"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God."

I John 5:13

"And this is the _____ that he hath _____ us, even eternal life" (I John 2:25). **This promise of "eternal life" is mentioned forty-five times in the Bible** ("eternal life" - 26 times, "everlasting life" - 11 times, "life eternal" - 4 times, and "life everlasting" - 4 times). Webster defines *eternal* as "without beginning or end of existence." He further explains it as "perpetual; ceaseless; continued without intermission." It is the same word that describes the duration of God. *"...according to the commandment of the _____ God"* (Romans 16:26).

WHAT CAUSES A PERSON TO DOUBT THEIR SALVATION?

- **THEY MAY NOT REMEMBER WHEN THEY WERE SAVED** – Perhaps they were saved at a young age and do not remember all of the details of the event. However, just because a person does not remember the details of his physical birth does not mean that he is not alive. He knows he is alive because right now his blood is pumping throughout his body. He is breathing; he can feel his pulse, etc. He may even be able to point to a piece of paper and say "That is my birth certificate."

Likewise, the believer in Christ not only has a spiritual birth certificate, *"And this is the _____, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son"* (I John 5:11), but he also has the evidence of spiritual life (Some of these evidences can be found on page nine).



"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH...

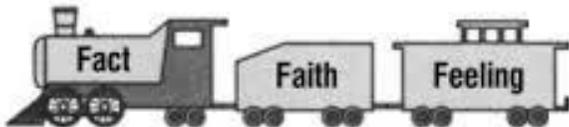
- **HE MAY HAVE AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF SALVATION** – There are at least 153 verses in the Bible that makes believing the determining factor in salvation (John 1:12; 3:16, etc). There is nothing we can do to gain salvation and there is nothing we can do to keep it or lose it. *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that _____: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast”* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Remember, it is God who keeps us by His power. I *“...am persuaded that _____ that which I have committed unto him against that day”* (II Timothy 1:12). We *“are _____ by the _____”* (I Peter 1:5).

- **A PERSON MAY NOT FEEL SAVED** – *“For if _____, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things”* (I John 3:20).

For feelings come and feelings go
And feelings are deceiving.
My warrant is the Word of God—
Naught else is worth believing.

We must keep facts, faith and feelings in the proper order.



**“THE
TRUTH OF
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IN THE
NATURE OF
SALVATION
ITSELF.”**

**LEWIS SPERRY
CHAFFER**

"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH...

- **THEY ARE AFRAID OF COMMITTING THE SIN OF PRESUMPTION** – Presumption is supposing something is true without positive proof. Some say that it is presumption for anyone to say he knows for sure that he is saved. Yet the Bible teaches: *“He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And _____, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life”* (I John 5:10-12). God does not want us to have a “hope so” or “think so” salvation but a **“know so”** salvation. (John uses the word “know” and its equivalents 152 times.)
- **DOUBTS MAY BE CAUSED BY A LACK OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH** – In Peter’s Second Epistle he encourages the believer to continue to grow or “add to” their faith so that they will be neither *“barren nor unfruitful”* in their Christian lives (II Peter 1:5-8). In verse nine he warns those who do not grow that they will have no spiritual insight and that they may even forget (not lose) their salvation. *“But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath _____ that he was purged from his old sins”* (II Peter 1:9).
- **SOME MAY LACK ASSURANCE BECAUSE OF SINFUL HABITS** – There may be those who believe that the doctrine of “once saved, always saved” leads to a license to sin. The Bible teaches otherwise: *“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? _____ . How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?”* (Romans 6:1-2 also see I John 2:1).



When we are saved we are justified from all things. *“And by him all that believe are justified from _____, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses”* (Acts 13:39).

THE THREEFOLD JUDGMENT OF THE BELIEVER		
Past	Present	Future
"hath he appeared" Hebrews 9:26	"now to appear" Hebrews 9:24	"shall he appear" Hebrews 9:28
Sinners	Sons	Saints
Sin	Sins	Service
Calvary	Chastisement	Crowns (Judgment Seat)
Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Penalty	Power	Presence

- MAY WAVER IN HIS CONFIDENCE BECAUSE OF DISCOURAGEMENT –**
 This seems to be case for John the Baptist when he was imprisoned by Herod Antipas. Notice John’s questions from his cell in the fortress of Machaerua: “And said unto him, _____ that should come, or do we look for another?” (Matthew 11:3). Remember, that this is the same John who shortly before this exclaimed “Behold _____, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

IT WAS DURING THIS TIME OF JOHN’S GREATEST SPIRITUAL STRUGGLE THAT THAT JESUS GIVES HIM HIS HIGHEST COMMENDATION

WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT MY DOUBTS?

- ASK GOD TO REVEAL HIS TRUTH TO YOU.** “If any of you lack wisdom, let him _____, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” (James 1:5).

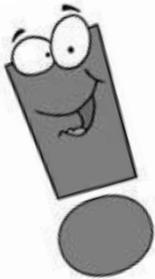


When John had questions concerning the ministry of Christ, he sent those questions to Jesus. “Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he _____, And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?” (Matthew 11:2-3).

- **REVIEW THE WORD OF GOD.** The next thing we notice from Matthew 11, is that Jesus answered John by reviewing His works "again." "Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John _____ those things which ye do hear and see" (Matthew 11:4). Jesus did the same thing for Thomas: to answer the doubts that he had. As a result Thomas exclaims: "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28).

"But _____, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:31).

If you still have any doubts about your salvation, I want to encourage you to review Lesson One of our Discipleship Course, Unlocking the Truth about Salvation.



"I WENT THROUGH LIFE AS AN ANIMATED QUESTION MARK, THEN ONE DAY I LEARNED THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION AND GOT STRAIGHTENED OUT INTO AN EXCLAMATION POINT!"

CURTIS HUTSON

THE BASIS OF OUR SECURITY IS FOUND IN GOD

- **GOD THE FATHER PLANNED OUR SALVATION** – Our eternal security is found in the eternal purposes and plans of God. "Moreover whom he did _____, them he also _____: and whom he _____, them he also _____: and whom he _____, them he also _____" (Romans 8:30). Notice that all of these are in the past tense, in the mind of God they are already accomplished (see Ephesians 1:3-11).

"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH...

- **GOD THE SON PURCHASED OUR SALVATION** – Christ died, was buried, and rose again for our justification. He is currently interceding for us at the right hand of the Father. *“Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that _____, yea rather, that is _____ again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh _____ for us”* (Romans 8:34).
- **GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT PRESERVES THE BELIEVER** – *“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were _____ with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the _____ of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory”* (Ephesians 1:13-14 also see Ephesians 4:30; II Corinthians 1:22).



Note the following illustration based on Colossians 3:3. *“For ye are dead, and your life is _____ with Christ in God.”*

SUPPOSE YOU HAD THREE BOXES—A BIG BOX, A MEDIUM-SIZED BOX AND A LITTLE BOX. YOU TAKE THE LITTLE BOX AND PUT IT INTO THE MEDIUM-SIZED BOX, THEN PUT THE MEDIUM-SIZED BOX INTO THE BIG BOX. THEN IN ORDER FOR SOMEONE TO GET TO THE LITTLE BOX THEY WILL HAVE TO TEAR OPEN THE BIG BOX AND THE MEDIUM-SIZED BOX.

IN THIS ILLUSTRATION GOD IS THE BIG BOX, JESUS IS THE MEDIUM-SIZED BOX AND YOU ARE THE LITTLE BOX (ALSO SEE JOHN 10:25-30 AND ROMANS 8:34-39)

EVIDENCES OF SALVATION



In the Book of Jeremiah, God instructs Jeremiah to purchase land. As a result of buying this piece of property he received the following evidences or receipts that the property was his: *“And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle”s son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. And I*

*subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances. So I took _____
_____, both that which was _____
according to the law and custom, and that which was _____”*
(Jeremiah 32:9-11).

Likewise, as the result of being the *“purchased possession”* of God (Ephesians 1:14), we receive these same two evidences.

- **The *“sealed”* or inward witness of the Spirit that we are the children of God** – In Jeremiah’s day the deed to his new property was *“sealed”* in an earthen vessel and buried on one of the corners of his property line.

We receive this same witness of the Spirit when we receive Christ as our Saviour. *“The Spirit itself _____
with our spirit, that we are the children of God”* (Romans 8:16 also see Galatians 4:6 and Psalm 27:8).

The Apostle John writes: *“Hereby _____ we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit”* (I John 4:13).

"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH..."

- **The second evidence was “open” or outward** – Again, when Jeremiah purchased his uncle’s property he not only received a **private deed** but there was also a **public declaration** that he had become the new owner of the land.

The word evidence comes from the root word “video” or “to see.” This second evidence is manifested in outward works. James discusses this in chapter two of his Epistle (Notice how many times he uses the words: “shew,” “seest” and “see”) Thus, it is impossible for us to separate faith from works for “_____ without _____ is _____” (James 2:17, 26).



As you read the checklist below I want to encourage you to: “_____ _____, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” (II Corinthians 13:5).

CHECKLIST OF FAITH

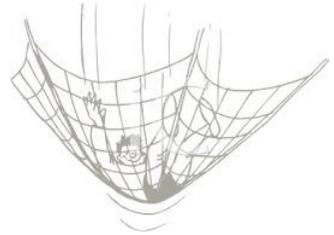
- Do you enjoy fellowship with God and fellow believers?** – “*That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have _____ with us: and truly our _____ is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ*” (I John 1:3).
- Do you have a sensitivity to sin?** – “*If we say that we have fellowship with him, and _____, we lie, and do not the truth* (I John 1:6).
- Do you keep his commandments?** – “*And hereby we do know that we know him, _____ He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him* (I John 2:3-5)

- What is your attitude towards the world and its values?** –
“_____ , neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him (I John 2:15).
- Do you continue to enjoy sin?** – “Whosoever abideth in him _____ : whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him” (I John 3:6)
- Do you love fellow believers?** – “We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we _____. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death” (I John 3:14).
- Do you acknowledge the Deity of Christ?** – “Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that _____ is of God And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world” (I John 4:2-3).
- Can you discern between truth and error?** – “We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of _____ , and the spirit of _____ ” (I John 4:6).
- Are you living a victorious Christian life?** – “For whatsoever is born of God _____ the world: and this is the victory that _____ the world, even our faith. Who is he that _____ the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?” (I John 5:4-5).

CONCLUSION

The assurance of our salvation is vital to our Christian walk. D.L. Moody once wrote: **“I have never known a Christian who was any good in the work of Christ who did not have assurance of salvation.”**

During the first half of the construction of the world’s largest bridge in San Francisco, no safety devices were used and twenty-three men fell to their deaths. As a result of this, the construction workers became fearful and the work on the bridge came to a standstill. As the work on the bridge got farther and farther behind schedule, the construction company decided to spread a safety net across the span of the bridge at the cost of \$100,000, even though ten men fell into this safety net, none of them were hurt. As a result, the workers began to work with confidence, knowing that if they did accidentally slip, the safety net would catch them. It is also interesting that they accomplished twenty-five percent more during the second half of construction, finishing the bridge on schedule.



The safety net of eternal security will give us the confidence in our work for Christ.

In Review: I want to encourage you to take a few moments and record in the space below how you were saved. Be sure to include the date, the time, the place, and who led you to Christ.