

**God's Desire for Every Christian  
Security**

1. The Assurance of our Salvation – How do I know that I am saved?

John Wesley's life experiences:

The traditional Roman Catholic position was that a person could not know with certainty if they were saved or not so you had to keep going to mass every time it was offered.

The Reformed tradition, which traced its roots back to John Calvin, taught that if you had any doubt of your salvation than you were not a Christian.

- John Wesley taught that both of these teachings are based on fear instead of love and truth.

John taught and believed that the “assurance of our salvation for God's children” was a privilege given to every Christian at the moment of renewal or rebirth.

**John's Key Point.**

Our “assurance of salvation” is based on us experiencing God in a very real and tangible way.

It was only after John's heart was warmed, it was only after he had a power encounter with God, and filled with the Holy Spirit that he was than given this assurance of his salvation.

In every place in scripture, when a person is saved and renewed there is always a power encounter with God in that person's life, there is always a definite experience in that person's life that witness to that person's spirit that God has taken their sins away, saved them from the law of sin and death, filled them with his Holy Spirit which gives them an “assurance” of their salvation.

## John Wesley's Scripture Sources:

**“The (Holy) Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.” Romans 8:16**

- If John were here today and you asked him “how do I know that I am saved?”

**John would ask you “has your heart been strangely warmed, has your spirit truly had a power encounter with the living God, do you know that your sins have been forgiven and you have been filled with the Holy Spirit?”**

- If we asked the Apostle Paul this same question he would say:

**Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? 2Corinthians 13:5**

- If we asked Jesus Christ “How do I know that I am saved” he would say:

**“If you love me, you will obey what I command. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— <sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. John 14:15-20**

“What if I have not had this experience, what if I have not had a power encounter with God, what if I am not sure I have been filled with the Holy Spirit?”

John Wesley asked this same question and the answer he was given was “seek faith until you find it”.

- ❖ Seek after God. Study God’s word. Stand on the truth of God’s word. Pray to God and ask Him to fill you and give you the Godly assurance that you need.

**Come near to God and he will come near to you. James 4:8**

One of the most important teachings in scripture, that will enable us to live the abundant life, is having an assurance of our salvation.

- ❖ We need to “know that we know” that we have had a power encounter with God, that we have been filled with his Spirit and given an assurance that we truly belong to him.

**Jesus told his disciples: “do not to leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:4**

If the disciple needed to wait until they were filled with the Holy Spirit -- - which gave them the “assurance” that God was always with them, would never leave them and would guide them --- how much more do we need to spend some time waiting and “seeking faith until we find it”?

## This week's devotional study.

Spend time this week reading:  
John's Gospel, chapters 14-17.  
Acts, chapters 1,2,4,8,9,10, and19