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Morning Service

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Teaching Elder

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The certainty of saving assurance.

As Christians, we must know the difference between real and false doctrines. Real doctrine comes directly from the Word of God. False doctrine comes from the corrupt heart, and confused mind of fallen man. Knowing this difference is a constant battle. A hallmark of being a Christian is the desire to seek install correct doctrine.

Many times we rely on our feelings or circumstances to base our certainty of saving assurance on. This allows a bad day, a fall into sin, or unfortunate circumstances degrade or remove this assurance, which can further expose us to sin, despair, and depression. Our actual assurance has not been lost, but our Christian testimony and usefulness to the Kingdom has been put on the sideline.

Fortunately our Lord so moved John to give us instructions in his Epistles on how we can be certain of our assurance from the Word, not our feelings or the friends around us.

As you listen to this sermon think about how sure you are of your salvation, then think about what standard you are using as a measure. Is it the Word? Or something else?

Notes:

There are 3 statements about the Lord in this epistle:

- Truth
- Rightness
- Love

There are 3 tests for the us to use which match up with the statements about the Lord:

- Doctrine  
Does your life reflect what you believe?
- Holiness  
Ties to Gods rightness. We should long for and love righteousness.  
We should be at war with sin.
- Love  
Our love for God and others. We should be growing in our love.

## **Scripture References**

**1 John 5:1-21** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the *child* born of Him. (2) By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. (3) For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. (4) For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith. (5) Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? (6) This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. (7) For there are three that testify: (8) the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. (9) If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. (10) The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. (11) And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. (12) He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. (13) These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. (14) This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (15) And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him. (16) If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not *leading* to death, he shall ask and *God* will for him give life to those who commit sin not *leading* to death. There is a sin *leading* to death; I do not say that he should make request for this. (17) All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not *leading* to death. (18) We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him. (19) We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in *the power of* the evil one. (20) And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. (21) Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

**Job 19:25-27** "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth. (26) "Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God; (27) Whom I myself shall behold, And whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!

**Romans 8:14-16** For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. (15) For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" (16) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,

We are glad you have chosen to listen to this sermon and pray that it gives you strength, the want for obedience, and a desire to have God's abundant Grace mortify sin in your life. If you have any questions or comments please email [chuck\\_ezell@yahoo.com](mailto:chuck_ezell@yahoo.com).