

## **DIRECTION 10 (GOSPEL-DRIVEN ASSURANCE)**

**SUMMARY:** IF YOU ARE GOING TO OBEY THE LAW OF GOD OUT OF THE COMFORT OF THE GOSPEL, YOU MUST HAVE COMPLETE ASSURANCE OF YOUR SALVATION. YOU OBTAIN THIS ASSURANCE BY BELIEVING AND RECEIVING CHRIST INTO YOUR HEART. THEREFORE, CONFIDENTLY BELIEVE IN CHRIST WITHOUT DELAY. BE ASSURED THAT WHEN YOU BELIEVE IN CHRIST, GOD WILL FREELY GIVE YOU A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST, JUST AS HE PROMISED.

### **INTRODUCTION:**

**ASSURANCE-BASED JUSTIFICATION:** HAVING ASSURANCE OF THE COMFORTS OF THE GOSPEL IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY IF YOU ARE GOING TO KEEP THE LAW OF GOD AND LIVE A HOLY LIFE. P. 125

**HOW TO RECEIVE ASSURANCE:** YOU CAN ONLY RECEIVE THIS ASSURANCE BY FAITH—THE VERY SAME FAITH BY WHICH YOU WERE JUSTIFIED... P. 125

**CHIEF PILLAR OF FAITH:** THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION IS INDEED ONE OF THE CHIEF PILLARS OF OUR FAITH, GOING RIGHT BACK TO THE REFORMATION. P. 125

- A. 4 REASONS WHY MANY DO NOT TEACH THAT YOU CAN BE SURE OF YOUR SALVATION:
  - 1. SALVATION IS NEVER PROMISED TO YOU ABSOLUTELY. P. 126
  - 2. SOME LOOK TO THE BIBLE AND THEIR OWN EXPERIENCE AND FIND THAT MANY SAINTS OF GOD ARE FREQUENTLY FILLED WITH DOUBTS ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT THEY WILL BE SAVED. P. 126
  - 3. MANY THINK THAT THE PROTESTANT REFORMERS WERE CRAZY WHEN THEY TAUGHT THAT ASSURANCE OF FAITH IS PART OF THE VERY NATURE OF SAVING FAITH. PP. 126-127
  - 4. SOME TEACH THAT IF YOU GIVE PEOPLE ASSURANCE OF THEIR SALVATION, YOU WILL DESTROY THEIR SELF-EXAMINATION. IN OTHER WORDS, TO KEEP PEOPLE HUMBLE, WE SHOULD TEACH THEM TO BE DOUBTFUL OF THEIR SALVATION. P. 127
  
- B. 4 OBSERVATIONS FOR THE RIGHT UNDERSTANDING OF ASSURANCE: (NOTE: THESE 4 POINTS REFUTE THE PREVIOUS 4 ARGUMENTS ABOVE): PP. 127-132
  - 1. FIRST, THIS DOES NOT APPLY IF YOU ARE NOT A CHRISTIAN. P. 127
  - 2. THE ASSURANCE OF SALVATION THAT I AM COMMENDING TO YOU IS NOT AN ASSURANCE THAT YOU ARE SAVED NO MATTER

WHAT YOU DO, OR NO MATTER HOW YOU LIVE OR WALK. RATHER, THE ASSURANCE I AM WRITING ABOUT IS IN A LIMITED WAY, THROUGH MERE FREE GRACE IN CHRIST, BY PARTAKING OF HOLINESS AS WELL AS FORGIVENESS, AND BY WALKING IN THE WAY OF HOLINESS TO THE ENJOYMENT OF THE GLORY OF GOD. P. 128-129

3. BEWARE OF THINKING THAT HAVING ASSURANCE OF FAITH IS INCONSISTENT WITH HAVING DOUBTS WITHIN YOUR SOUL. PP. 129-131
4. THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL IS THAT GOD FREELY GIVES CHRIST AND SALVATION TO YOU PERSONALLY IF YOU RECEIVE HIM. PP. 131-132

**PROPOSITION:** 7 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD HAVE ASSURANCE WHEN YOU TRULY HAVE SAVING FAITH: PP. 132-143

**LESSON:**

- I. ASSURANCE IS BUILT RIGHT INTO THE VERY NATURE OF SAVING FAITH. PP. 132-133
- II. SECOND, MANY PLACES IN THE SCRIPTURE COMMAND YOU TO BE ASSURED OF YOUR SALVATION WHEN YOU BELIEVE. PP. 133-134
- III. GOD TELLS YOU TO COME TO CHRIST, NO MATTER HOW WRETCHED AND SINFUL YOU HAVE BEEN THUS FAR, WITH CONFIDENT FAITH RIGHT FROM THE START. THUS, YOU CAN BE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT CHRIST AND HIS SALVATION WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU WITHOUT DELAY. PP. 134-136
- IV. THOSE WHO WERE TRULY GODLY IN THE BIBLE COMMONLY PROFESSED THEIR ASSURANCE AND PERSUASION OF THEIR INTEREST (RELATIONSHIP) IN GOD AND HIS SALVATION. PP. 136-138
- V. THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF FAITH IS TO RECEIVE CHRIST AND HIS SALVATION INTO YOUR HEART. PP. 138-139
- VI. FAITH PURIFIES YOUR HEART, AND ENABLES YOU TO LIVE AND WALK IN HOLINESS, AS CHRIST LIVES IN YOU. YOUR FAITH WILL NEVER DO THIS FOR YOU UNLESS YOU HAVE SOME ASSURANCE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST. PP. 74-75
- VII. THE CONTRARY DOCTRINE, WHICH SAYS THAT SAVING FAITH CANNOT GIVE ASSURANCE, PRODUCES MANY EVIL FRUITS IN PEOPLE'S LIVES. PP. 141-143

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