

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **1John 5:7-13**.
- B. How confident can one be about going to heaven? Can one be over-confident?
- C. I definitely believe one can be under-confident!
- D. Tonight's lesson is by request. To see what the Bible says about being confident in our salvation and going to heaven.

## I. IT IS POSSIBLE TO FALL AWAY AFTER BEING SAVED.

- A. There can be a false confidence, or an over-confidence about being saved. After becoming a Xian it is possible to fall away from God.
- B. Note the following passages:
  - 1. Galatians 5:4, 7.
  - 2. Hebrews 3:12-13; 6:4-6; 10:26-31.
  - 3. 2Peter 2:20-22.
  - 4. Matthew 7:21-23.
- C. We must always be on guard against Satan. He desires to have us back!

## II. BUT WE CAN HAVE CONFIDENCE IN OUR SALVATION.

- A. We may have doubts in our life (salvation), but they don't come from God!
- B. Notice the following passages:
  - 1. Luke 6:20; 12:32.
  - 2. 2Timothy 4:7-8.
  - 3. 2Peter 1:10-11.
  - 4. 1John 5:7-13.
- C. Notice the following points in the 1John 5 passages:
  - 1. We have a great testimony in our salvation (5:7-9). Three things:
    - a. The Spirit (more later, in what the Spirit does for us).
    - b. The water (of baptism, see 1Pet. 3:20-21).
    - c. The blood (it cleanses our sins, see Heb. 9:22 and Rom. 6:3-4).
  - 2. We have the testimony of God in the sending of His Son (5:10). Not to have confidence in our salvation is to doubt the saving power of X's death! To doubt this saving power is to doubt God who provided His Son! Instead of doubting the witness of God in sending X, I need to have confidence in my salvation from sin!
  - 3. To have Christ is to have eternal life--this is the testimony of God (5:11-12)!
  - 4. John writes this letter to Xians, those who have the Son, so that they might know that they have eternal life (5:13)! This entire letter is to be a confidence builder!

## III. SOME REASONS FOR CONFIDENCE.

- A. Romans chapter 8 provides an abundance of confidence in our salvation.
- B. The following things are taught in Romans 8 concerning our salvation:
  - 1. There is now no condemnation for those in X Jesus (Rom. 8:1).
  - 2. What we (or the Law) could not do--Jesus did (Rom. 8:2-3).
  - 3. We no longer have a spirit of slavery, but one of confidence (Rom. 8:14-15).
  - 4. The deposit of the Spirit makes us heirs, co-heirs with X (Rom. 8:16-17). Also see Rom. 8:26-27; 2Cor. 5:5; Eph. 4:30.
  - 5. The Spirit has testified as to what we need to do to be saved, when we do that (testify in our spirit) we can have confidence in our salvation (Rom. 8:16).
  - 6. We have a great hope (desire and expectation) by which we are saved (Rom. 8:24).
  - 7. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in X Jesus (Rom. 8:31-35a).
- C. John tells us how the persecuted saints overcame the devil in Rev. 12:10-11:
  - 1. With the blood of the Lamb (Jesus blood cleanses all sin).

2. The word of their testimony (stayed faithful and growing in the doctrine).
3. They did not love their own life; even unto death (always put the will of X first).

#### **CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. Do you know you are saved? To answer that question, what about the following:
  1. Have you accepted the testimony of the Spirit concerning the plan of salvation?
  2. Have you obeyed that testimony, putting you in X?
  3. Are you walking daily in the Lord by keeping His commandments?
  4. Are you dying daily to self, allowing Jesus to be your Lord and Master?
  5. Do you have the HS as your deposit of eternal life to come?
- B. If you can answer those questions as "YES" then you should have confidence in your salvation. Be sure your confidence comes from the word of God, and not from what someone else says or does.
- C. Those that have confidence in the doctrines of men, or money, or human commandments may have a confidence in their salvation but it is not Biblically based. It is a false confidence.
- D. I have a great confidence in my salvation--not in falling away. I might fall away, but that is not where my confidence is. If you need to, focus your confidence in your salvation, not in the fact that you might fall away.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.