

Discipleship 101: Basics of the Christian Life
Lesson 4: Can I Be Sure I'm Saved?

II Peter 1:10 says, “¹⁰Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure.”

I. EXPECT DOUBTS.

A. The nature of Satan

One of the first things that Satan will do is to try to get you to Doubt your Salvation.

John 8:44 “...he is a liar and the father of lies.”

B. The nature of Salvation

Salvation is Conditional.

Three questions to ask...

1. Have I met the Conditions for salvation?

- Admit your need.
- Believe and confess.
- Repent of your sins.
- Be baptized by immersion.

If you've met all the Conditions for salvation you can be Sure you're saved.

2. Do I show Signs of new life?

I John 5:12-13 “¹²He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.”

- The first sign – Obedience (I John 2:3-6)
- The second sign – A Changed life (I John 3:4-10)
- The third sign – Belief about Jesus (I John 2:18-25; 4:1-3)
- The fourth sign – Love (I John 2:9-11; 3:14-18)

If you are showing **Signs** of new life, you can be **Sure** you're a Christian.

3. Am I **Continuing** in the faith?

Colossians 1:22,23 *“²²But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—²³if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.”*

Just as there are conditions for **Becoming** a Christian, there are conditions for **Remaining** a Christian.

John 8:31 *“Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.*

II John 1:9 *“⁹Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God;”*

I Corinthians 9:27 *“²⁷No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”*

John 8:31; 15:6,9,10

Romans 2:7,18

I Corinthians 9:27

Galatians 5:4

Philippians 2:12

I Timothy 4:16

Hebrews 3:12-14; 6:1-6; 10:26, 27

James 1:25; 5:19,20

II Peter 2:20-22

II John 1:9

Revelation 2:10

Revelation 3:16

If you **Continue** in the faith you can be **Sure** of your salvation.

God want us to be **Confident**, but he certainly doesn't want us to be smug and **Complacent**.

Philippians 2:12 *“¹²Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,”*

II. THE NEED FOR CONFIDENCE

A. There are some who are confident that **Shouldn't Be**.

Matthew 7:21 “*Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.*”

Matthew 7:14 “*For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.*”

B. There are some who are not confident that **Should Be**.

II Peter 1:10 says, “*...be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure.*”

C. When we are confident...

1. It gives us **Inner Peace**.
2. It enhances our **Witness**.
3. It gives us the ability to **Endure Trials**.

III. HOW TO BE CONFIDENT

A. Rely on God's **Grace** and not your own **Goodness**.

Isaiah 64:6 “*and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;*”

Ephesians 2:8,9 “*⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast.*”

Romans 3:10 “*No one is righteous not even one.*”

Becoming a Christian is saying I'm going to trust **God's Grace** and not **Myself**.

B. Trust God's **Promises** and not your own **Perspective**.

1. “*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*” (John 3:16).
2. “*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.*” (John 11:25,26).
3. “*I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.*” (John 14:2,3).

4. *“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,”* (Romans 8:1).
5. *“That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”* (Romans 10:9).
6. *“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved,”* (Mark 16:16).
7. *“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.”* (John 5:24)
8. *“Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands.”* (II Corinthians 5:1)

When we doubt our salvation, we’re doubting the **Integrity** of the **Promise** of God.

C. Measure our Christian life by **Progress and not by **Perfection**.**

Romans 7:19,24 *“¹⁹For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing.... What a wretched man I am..”*

II Peter 1:5-8 *“⁵For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; ⁶and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; ⁷and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. ⁸For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

Salvation is a gift and a growth. The gift is **God’s Grace**. Growth is **Our Part** which takes **Effort**.

God expects these qualities to **Increase**.

God realizes that we are **Imperfect**, but he still saves us and expects us to **Grow**.

D. Grow increasingly **Intense in the Christian life and avoid **Indifference**.**

II Peter 1:10 *“be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure.”*

1. You want to learn the whole truth.
2. You want to see Jesus personally.
3. You get tired of this world.
4. You look forward to heaven.

II Peter 1:10,11 *“For if you do these things, you will never fall, ¹¹and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”*