v13 I 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. v14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. v15 And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him. v16 If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. v17 All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death. v18 We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. v19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. v20 We know also 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--even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. v21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols. 1 John 5:13-21

Many Christians struggle with the matter of "Assurance of Salvation". There are many reasons why people struggle with his question.

- 1. Many have been let down by so many people through their life that they have major TRUST issues.
- 2. Many struggle with the wonder of Grace and Mercy. So much of life is about working hard to achieve a goal, they never quite feel as if they have done enough to deserve salvation.
- 3. Many feel that some specific "sins" make it impossible for them to get to heaven. The FALSE Roman Catholic and Lutheran teaching about "Mortal" and "Venal" sins has led many to believe that God cannot forgive them unless they do something about those specific sins.
- 4. Your "faith" is based on emotion and not truth. If you are driven by your emotions rather that the solid foundation of God's Word, you will feel shacky about your standing with God.
- 5. The attack on the Authority of the Bible in Post-Modern thinking, has lead to many doubting the truth of Promises contained in God's Word.

YOU CAN KNOW YOU ARE SAVED

I Firstly, You can KNOW you are SAVED BECAUSE: ASSURANCE OF SALVATION is POSSIBLE

I write that you may know you have eternal life. 1Jn 5:13

The world is uncertain about the future. Many religions speculate about the future.

THREE MAIN IDEAS ABOUT AFTERLIFE

Reincarnation – come back in cycles (developed at a time when that was the prevailing worldview)

Annihilation - There is nothing at the end. How we life now is important? Scientists tell us that one day the universe will end. ALL THE ENERGY WILL BE CONSUMED

HEAVEN OR HELL – Christianity, Judaism & Islam

II <u>Secondly, You can KNOW you are SAVED BECAUSE:</u> <u>ASSURANCE OF SALVATION is POSSIBLE if you BELIEVE in JESUS</u>

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God 1Jn 5:13

In Christianity YOU CAN BE CERTAIN because your salvation does not depend on you.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 10:10 I have come that you may have life.

III Thirdly, You can KNOW you are SAVED BECAUSE: ASSURANCE OF SALVATION is POSSIBLE because GOD WILLED IT

1Jn 5:14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 1Jn 5:15 And if we know that he hears us--whatever we ask--we know that we have what we asked of him.

The context of asking for anything is the context of salvation, and salvation is according to God's plan and purpose.

Gal 1:3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, Gal 1:4 who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, Gal 1:5 to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Eph 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Eph 1:4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love Eph 1:5 he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-- Eph 1:6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Eph 1:11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, Eph 1:12 in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.

IV <u>Fourthly, You can KNOW you are SAVED BECAUSE:</u> <u>ASSURANCE OF SALVATION is POSSIBLE because WE</u> HAVE NOT COMMITTED THE UNFORGIVABLE SIN

1Jn 5:16 If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. 1Jn 5:17 All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death.

- **OT** Num 18:22 From now on the Israelites must not go near the Tent of Meeting, or they will bear the consequences of their sin and will die.
- **NT** Heb 10:26 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, Heb 10:27 but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.
- **JESUS -** Mar 3:28 I tell you the truth, all the sins and blasphemies of men will be forgiven them. Mar 3:29 But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin."

V <u>Fifthly, You can KNOW you are SAVED BECAUSE:</u> ASSURANCE OF SALVATION is POSSIBLE because WE ARE PROTECTED BY JESUS HIMSELF

1Jn 5:18 We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; **the one who was born of God keeps him safe (= Jesus)**, and the evil one cannot harm him. 1Jn 5:19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.

John 17:12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me.

John 17:15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.

John 17:20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,

VI Sixthly, You can KNOW you are SAVED BECAUSE: ASSURANCE OF SALVATION is POSSIBLE because JESUS HAS REVEALED HIMSELF AS GOD WHILE ON EARTH

1Jn 5:20 We know also 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--even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 1Jn 5:21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.

THE HISTORICAL JESUS IS OUR FINAL REASON FOR ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

The REALITY OF JESUS WALKING THE FACE OF THE EARTH IS PROVEN BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT.

Either he was a lunatic or HE is who HE said HE was!!!

I KNOW BECAUSE I KNOW HIM WHO GOD FOREKNEW

AND I KNOW BECAUSE I AM KNOWN BY HIM