

“Assurance of Salvation”

1 John 2:3-6

12/10/20

The Bible teaches that there is a subjective ground of assurance and an objective ground of assurance. Both the subjective and the objective are mentioned in Romans 15:4

- Subjective: “endurance”
- Objective: “encouragement of the Scriptures”

Both subjective and objective grounds for our assurance are applied to us by the Holy Spirit – Rom 8:16

The key to the objective is the question: Do you trust in Jesus alone for your salvation?

The key to the subjective is the question: Is your faith genuine?

In 1 John 2:3-17 John points out 4 signs that assure believers that we have fellowship with God (see D. Edmond Hiebert, *The Epistles of John, An Expositional Commentary*)

- The Sign of Obedience – 3-5a
- The Sign of Imitation – 5b-6
- The Sign of Love – 7-11
- The Sign of Not Loving the World – 12-17

What to Look for to Know That I Am a Child of God:

1. Is There Any Sign of Obedience on My Part? – 3-5a

Keeping His commandments is evidence that you have a new heart/nature. It is promised in the New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

Keeping His commandments means that I want to be living in a way that is well pleasing to Him. I know what He wants from what He says in His Word (such as Mark 12:28-31; 1 John 3:23)

2. Is There Any Sign of Imitation of Christ on My Part? – 5b-6

“Walking in the same way in which He walked” is part of being the Lord’s disciple.

The key element to walking as He walked is living in obedience to His Father – John 6:38; 8:29; 14:31