
Essential Christianity: Believing Your Beliefs and Doubting Your Doubts

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy, February 24, 2019*

Assurance of Salvation:

There Is Such A Thing as Eternal Life

¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

“but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John 20:31, ESV

God Wants You to Know Where Eternal Life Is Found:

Jesus

God Wants You to Know If You Have Eternal Life:

Knowing Jesus

There Is No List of Behaviors or Accomplishments

A Person Can Do to Determine Eternal Life

Salvation Cannot Be Earned

There Is No List of Sins A Believer Can Commit

Which Will Cause Them to Lose Eternal Life

Salvation Cannot Be Lost or Forfeited

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father’s hand.” John 10:27–29, NLT

“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.” Philippians 1:6, NLT

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?... For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:35, 38–39, ESV

“and having been freed from sin, you became enslaved to righteousness.”

Romans 6:18, NET

“to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” *1 Peter 1:4–5, ESV*

It Is Nonbelievers Who Are in Danger of Losing Salvation
In the Sense of Losing the Opportunity to Ever to Receive It

Assurance of Forgiveness:

God Wants Repentance Not Damnation

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” *1 John 1:9, ESV*

¹⁶ If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. ¹⁷ All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.”

A Christian Can Be Sinning So Seriously
That God Judges That Sin with Swift Physical Death

Acts 5:1-10

1 Corinthians 11:29-32

There Is an Unforgiveable Sin: Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit

“So I tell you, every sin and blasphemy can be forgiven—except blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, which will never be forgiven. Anyone who speaks against the Son of Man can be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven, either in this world or in the world to come.” *Matthew 12:31–32, NLT*

“Sin That Leads to Death” Is Not A Particular Sin

Some People Are No Longer Capable of Repenting

“that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.” *Hebrews 12:16–17, ESV*

“Any Sin We Commit That We Are, By Grace, Capable of Truly
Confessing and Repenting from
Does Not Lead to Death”