

ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us **what is true** and to make us realize **what is wrong in our lives**. It **corrects us** when we are wrong and **teaches us to do what is right**.

Foundation of our belief:

The **Foundation of our Belief is that:**

1. God loves us and wants to have a close relationship with us.

1 John 4:10 -This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us....

John 3:16 - 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. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

2. God needed to save us because we are sinners who right back in the garden of Eden broke relationship with God (Rom 3:23 below). A good definition of sin is the I that is the middle letter. Sin is when we put suiting ourselves and our own desires higher than wanting what God wants.

Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Isaiah 59:2 -But your sins have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.

3. Jesus is God's solution. (John 3:16) (Rom. 5:8)

Romans 5:8 - God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us.

2 Cor. 5:21 - God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

4. Our response

Romans 10: 9, 10 -If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Ephesians 2:8- For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Our **response** involves the two aspects of both **belief**, which equates to a personal knowing of God, AND **actions** which reflect our heart of knowing:

James 2:17 In the same way, faith (belief) by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.²⁰ You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without actions is useless? ²¹ Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. ²³ And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,"^[e] and he was called God's friend. ²⁴ You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by belief alone.

Just as we can't have belief without actions, the reverse is also true – we can't have just actions without belief, i.e. living a good, moral life without a friendship and personal relationship with Jesus won't bring eternal life.

Matt. 7: 21-23 *“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you (i.e. I never had a personal relationship with you). Away from me, you evildoers!’*

Hosea 6:6 *I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices. I want you to know me more than I want burnt offerings (good actions alone).*

The bottom line is that following God is all about having a personal relationship with him – not simply obeying a set of rules without taking the time to get to know God personally, nor simply acknowledging what Jesus has done for us but then continuing on living with yourself as the one in charge of your life.

Jeremiah 9 ²³ *This is what the LORD says:*

*“Let not the wise boast of their wisdom
or the strong boast of their strength
or the rich boast of their riches,
²⁴ but let the one who boasts boast about this:
that they have the understanding **to know me.**”*

