

Are You Saved?

July 18, 2010

Turn to **2 Timothy 1:12**. Are you saved? That's the most important question you will ever answer, and your answer to that question is crucial. It's an eternal question. I'm not talking about being saved from a particular situation. Are you saved from hell? Have you had your sins forgiven?

A lot of people don't think you can know whether or not you are saved, but you can. A lot of people, when asked if they are saved, say they are a Baptist, a Methodist, a Catholic, a Pentecostal. I didn't ask you that. I asked if you were saved?

Does anybody know that a lot of folk that are church members are going to go to hell? It's true, because Jesus said, "Many shall come to Me in the last days and say, 'Lord, Lord,' and I will say depart from Me, I never knew (or recognize) you." Having a membership in some denomination does not save you. Going to church does not make you a Christian, but it's a good place to go if the Word is being preached.

A lot of people even doubt their salvation. Many are plagued in their minds by worry and doubt as to whether or not they are saved. That's a lie of the devil. The devil tries to get us to doubt our salvation, but **you can KNOW if you are saved**.

"For this reason I also suffer these things, nevertheless I am not ashamed." I am not ashamed of Jesus. Does anybody love the Lord in this house? Then the Apostle Paul goes on to say, "For I know in whom I have believed." Don't misunderstand this, but it isn't as much in WHAT you know as WHOM you know.

I'm not discarding doctrines, because we need sound, Biblical teaching. People can have all kinds of doctrines, but if they don't know Jesus, those doctrines won't get them anywhere. You can have head knowledge but have no heart knowledge.

So the Apostle Paul says, "For I know in whom I have believed and am persuaded (convinced)." You can be convinced. Are you saved? Do you know you're saved? Do you know who saved you? "For I know in whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day." If you haven't committed your life to Him, He can't keep you; but if you have committed your life to Him, He can keep you until Judgment day.

It will be serious when we all face a Holy God on Judgment day, and some of you in this house are playing church. You visit when you feel like visiting. You come when it's not too hot or not too cold, but I want to tell you that we have to dig in! We're in the last days, and in these last days you have to know that you know that you know in whom you have believed; and you have to be persuaded, because all of hell will be coming against you.

There are only two classes of people in the world: **the saved and the lost**. When the Lord died on the cross, He eradicated the difference between the Jews and the Gentiles. Before, there were those inside the covenant and those outside the covenant. Now that has been resolved. There

aren't Jews and Gentiles. There are **the converted and the unconverted**. You are either **saved or lost**.

I told this little story in the first service. A businessman was traveling through the country. He got lost and stopped in this little town. He saw a little boy, went up to the little boy and asked directions. He said, "Son, I seem to be lost. Do you know how to get to the next town?" The little boy's reply was, "Nope!"

Then the man said, "Do you know how far it might be from this town to the next town?" The little boy said, "Nope!" Then the businessman said, "Do you know the name of the next town?" The little boy replied, "Nope!" Then he said, "Do you know where this road right here leads?" The little boy said, "Nope!" Finally, the man looked at the little boy and said, "You don't seem to know much," and the little boy looked at him and said, "I know I ain't lost."

The world wants us to explain everything, but there are a lot of things I don't know. I'm not the answer man, but I know one thing. I know in whom I have believed. Some of you in this house right now do not know Christ. If you died today, you would be lost.

People aren't scared of hell anymore, with all the horror movies out in the world, but hell is real. That's why people can come to church living in all kinds of sin and not feel one bit of conviction, because their hearts and spirits have become hardened.

The Bible clearly tells us that **we can have assurance of our salvation**. We can know in whom we have believed, and we can be persuaded about that. Look at **1 John 5:13**. The Apostle John says, "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God." Our Savior's name is Jesus! "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life."

I believe this Book called the Bible is the **infallible Word of God**. I believe the Bible is the **inerrant Word of God**. That means there are no errors in it. I believe this Book called the Bible is the **inspired Word of God**, and this Book divinely declares that **Jesus Christ is the bedrock of salvation**. You can't be saved any other way.

I don't want to put down anybody, but there are a lot of people you are listening to that are trying to tell you that there are many ways to Heaven. There is not! There is only ONE way. In **John 10:9**, Jesus said, "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved."

When you mention the name of Jesus, you're talking about **His virgin birth**. You are talking about **His sinless life**. You're talking about **His death on the cross**, where He shed His blood and paid the price for our sins.

When you mention the name of Jesus, you're talking about **His dead body being placed in a tomb**. You're talking about **the third day**. There is something about the third day. On the third day, **He arose from the dead**, and He appeared to many people. Five hundred at one time. Then after 40 days, **He ascended back to Heaven** to sit down at the right hand of the Father. Job done! Job

accomplished! Job finished! He is the ONLY door. He is the ONLY way.

In **John 14:6**, Jesus said, “I am the way, I am the truth, and I am the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” In **Acts 4:12**, Luke says, “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under Heaven given among men by which we must be saved.” Are you saved? Are you really saved?

Look at what the Word says in **Romans 10:9**. “If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” **Verse 10**: “For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Confession means to **agree** with what God says. When God says I’m a sinner, I agree with that. When God says I’m lost, I agree with that. When God tells me that the wages of sin is death, I agree with that.

Not only does **confession** mean to **agree** with what God says, but we are also to **admit** what we have done. **Confess** your sins, and He is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins. That may seem simple, but folk are going to hell. I’m trying to stand and say that you don’t have to go to hell. I’m trying to let you know that you can turn from sin and be saved.

Romans 10:13 says, “Whosoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” I’m glad I’m a whosoever. In **Acts 16:30**, the Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas, “What must I do to be saved?” It is crucial to know what you have to do to be saved, because there are all kinds of theories and philosophies in the world.

Paul the Apostle told the Philippian jailer in **Verse 31**, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.” Believe with all your heart, trust in what He accomplished on the cross, you will be saved, and so will your whole household.

Jesus is the bedrock of salvation. **Salvation is all about Jesus!** The main focus must always be Jesus. When you stop preaching Jesus, you stop preaching the blood. When you stop preaching Jesus, you stop preaching miracles. When you stop preaching Jesus, you have no way to be saved.

In **John 6:47**, Jesus said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.” This body will die, but the real you is inside. Some of you will have eternal existence, but **eternal life is where the presence of the Lord is**. It’s joy unspeakable and full of glory.

When you get saved, God gives you the Holy Spirit; because, without the Holy Spirit, you cannot be born again. We cannot be spiritually born without the Holy Spirit, and when you get saved, the Holy Spirit is within you. When the Holy Spirit comes inside of you, He comes inside of you with a **witness**. When the Holy Spirit witnesses to you, He is letting you know that you are saved.

When the Kingdom of God is in operation, when you are obeying God, when you’re in a church service and the Holy Spirit is leading, guiding, and directing, **the Holy Spirit will witness in your heart**. How do we know that? Look at **1 John 3:24**. “By this we know that He abides in us, by the

Spirit whom He has given us.”

Romans 8:16 says, “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.” I’m a Spirit-being. That is who I am. So are you, and once we confess our sins and accept Jesus Christ into our hearts, the Holy Spirit comes in and abides within us and witnesses to our spirit. What does He tell your spirit? That you are a child of God!

Feelings will come and go, emotions rise and fall, but the Holy Spirit will witness to God’s Word that you are a child of God.

The Bible also declares that **the birthmark of salvation is a changed life. 2 Corinthians 5:17** says, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new.”

Whom or what are YOU trusting in to save your soul? My prayer is that every lost soul in this house today gets saved.