TITLE: **ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**

PART III

(The Security of the Believer)

## III. HOW CAN YOU KNOW ONCE YOU ARE SAVED, THAT YOU WILL ALWAYS BE SAVED? Will the salvation of a genuine believer ever be lost?

A. THE _____ OF SALVATION SHOWS YOU ARE ETERNALLY SECURE.

If keeping our salvation depended on our works, we might lose it.

The Bible, however, declares that "salvation is of the Lord" (Jonah 2:9). It is a work originated by God the Father, wrought through Christ the Son, and applied by the Holy Spirit. The very definition of the word "salvation" argues for eternal security because it communicates a saving, rescuing, deliverance, and preservation from the bondage of Satan, sin, and sin's consequences (hell), and a permanent restoration and renewal unto God, making the believer a partaker of the infinite riches of God's grace.

The Apostle Paul gives a definite, clear description of how a sinner is saved by saying that salvation is "by grace through faith" (Eph. 2:8). Salvation is not "by faith through grace," which would place the emphasis upon man's faith; rather, it is _____, placing the emphasis upon God and not man.

B. THE _____ OF SALVATION SHOW THAT YOU ARE ETERNALLY SECURE

If full salvation was not a present possession we might lose it.

The Bible declares that a believer _____been saved (past tense); and Heaven's possession (with its blessings) are _____ ours.

1. We have already been _____ with ___ spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3)
2. We have already been _____ in the beloved (Eph. 1:6)
3. We presently possess _____ and _____ (Eph. 1:7)
4. We have already obtained an _____ (Eph. 1:11)
5. We have already been _____ with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:13)

6. We have already been _____ (made alive) with Christ (Eph. 2:5)
7. We have already been _____ and _____ together with Christ (Eph. 2:6)

(NOTE: V. 8 - "are ye saved" = Greek "you have been saved and still are" (perfect, passive participle)

The Bible declares that a believer has already been saved from the curse of the Law (Gal. 3:13), from wrath (I Th. 5:9), from death (see II Cor. 1:10), and from destruction (II Th. 1:9). A sinner who trusts in Christ becomes: a child of God (Jn. 1:12-13), regenerated (Tit. 3:5), a new creature (II Cor. 5:17), a heavenly citizen (Phil. 3:20), an heir to God's grace and inheritance (Rom. 5:2; Eph. 1:18), and complete in Christ (Col. 2:9-10).

It is by an act of the immutable God that a believing sinner is "declared righteous" (Rom. 3:21-26), sanctified (I Cor. 6:11), perfected forever (Heb. 10:14), delivered from the powers of darkness (Acts 26:18), and placed on the solid Rock (I Cor. 3:9-15).

Therefore, believers can know that they are: of God (I Jn. 5:19), have passed from death (I Jn. 3:14), are "in Him" (I Jn. 2:5), possess eternal life (I Jn. 5:11).

In the future, believers shall be: raised (I Th. 4:16), changed (I Cor. 15:52), caught up (I Th. 4:17), be like Him (I Jn. 3:2), be with Him (I Th. 4:17), and be satisfied (Ps. 17:15).

C. THE _____ OF SALVATION SHOWS YOU ARE ETERNALLY SECURE.

If our salvation was not resting in the unchanging character of God, we might lose it.

1. The Bible describes God as a God of _____.
   "He abideth faithful" (II Tim. 2:13); "He cannot lie" (Tit. 1:2); and "His Word is truth" (Jn. 17:17). Paul had confidence in the trustworthiness of God when he said to Timothy "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day" (II Tim. 1:12).

2. Secondly, the Bible describes God as a God of _____.

   a. God's love is _____ (Rom. 5:8). Paul states that if Christ was

willing to die for men though they were sinners, how much more will He keep them once He has saved them -- "much more then being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him!" (Rom. 5:8-9)

b. God's love is _____. (I Jn.4:10)
A man having been saved for many years is no more worthy of God's saving grace (a manifestation of His love) than he was before salvation or at the time of salvation. Men are saved by unmerited grace and kept saved by unmerited grace! (Rom.4; Gal.3:2,3).