

W E D N E S D A Y N I G H T B I B L E S T U D Y

THE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

PART 7

THE SCROLL OF ASSURANCE

Reading: 1 John 5:13

Introduction

- Christian upon arrival at the cross loses his '*burden of sin*'
- He is saved and forgiven, given garments of salvation and sealed by the Holy Spirit.
- He is further given a scroll, he needs to present upon his arrival at the '*Celestial City*'

1 The Scroll Of Assurance

- The scroll represents the '*assurance*' of Christian's salvation.
- Assurance means '*a promise, guarantee of something*'. (In this case salvation.)
- It means knowing for sure that you are saved.
- God wants you to know that you are saved.
- Assurance is based upon what God says to us in His Word about our salvation.
- Consider [1 John 5:13], [John 6:37], [John 10:27/28].
- I am not hoping to be saved. I know I am saved because God has told me so.

2 The King's Highway

- Bunyan lifts the term '*the King's Highway*' from Israel's journey to promised land. [Numbers 20:17]
- Consider [Matthew 7:13/14] & [John 14:6].
- Are you walking on the '*narrow path*' (the King's Highway) or the broad path (the way of destruction).

3 The Hill Difficulty

- The King's Highway led up a steep hill called '*Difficulty*'.
- There are times when the King's Highway will become difficult for a multitude of reasons.
- What do you do? Keep going. The path will level out.
- Christian decides to lie down and falls asleep.
- NB Sleep in Scripture is a symbol of inactivity and prayerlessness. [Romans 13:11].

4 Losing The Scroll

- After waking Christian chides himself and hurries to make up lost ground but he discovers he has lost his scroll.
- He has **NOT** lost his salvation. He has lost his assurance.
- There are times doubts set in and although we are truly saved you can lack assurance.
- How do we get our assurance back?
- Some people lack assurance because they fail to understand the '*security element*' built into their salvation.
- You cannot be truly '*saved*' and then somehow become '*unsaved*'.
- You cannot be truly '*born again of the Holy Spirit*' and then somehow be '*unborn*'.
- God does not give you eternal life and then take it from you. [John 10:28].

5 How Do I Know That I Am Truly Saved And Thus Eternally Secure?

- There is undisputable evidence one is truly saved.
- The evidence is based upon what you love/have a strong impulse for.
- A strong love for Christ evidenced by obedience to the Lord. [John 14:15].
- A solid love for God's Word.
- A strong desire to be in God's house and with His people.
- A decreasing love for the world.
- Our assurance is not down to our feelings. It is down to believing what God says to us in His Word.
- It is not perfection in our lives that proves we are saved but the overall onward direction of growing in the Lord.
- The Holy Spirit also gives us the '*internal assurance*' we are saved. [Romans 8:16].
- Christian recovered his scroll. Do you need to recover yours? [Psalm 51:12].

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