

DR. JOHN TOLSON

SERMON



Matthew 7:21-23

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

THE MOST BASIC QUESTION OF LIFE IS "ARE YOU SAVED?"

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.

DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE LOST...YET HAVE **ASSURANCE** YOU HAVE BEEN FOUND (SAVED)??

John 5:13

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, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

1 John 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

John 3:1-7

¹There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.² This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." ³Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3:1-7

⁴Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

1. ASSURANCE STARTS WITH NEW BIRTH **A. Conception Takes Place** John 3:5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." **B. A Continuation is Involved John 3:6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

C. A Character is Produced

D. A Completion Transpires

E. A Commencement Transpires

1. ASSURANCE STARTS WITH NEW BIRTH F. A Certainty is Realized 1 John 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. **Ephesians 2:8-9**

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

2. EVIDENCE OF BEING SAVED Test #1 Do What The Book Says

1 John 2:3-6

³Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

2. EVIDENCE OF BEING SAVED Test #1 Do What The Book Says 1 John 3:6 Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.

2. EVIDENCE OF BEING SAVED **Test #2 Love One Another**

1 John 3:14-15 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

2. EVIDENCE OF BEING SAVED **Test #2 Love One Another** John 13:35

By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

2. EVIDENCE OF BEING SAVED Test #3 Certainty of Being Saved

1 John 5:10 He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.

QUESTION: How do I know if I am believing and trusting at this very moment??

HOW DO I KNOW? #1 Witness of the Holy Spirit 1 John 5:10 He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.

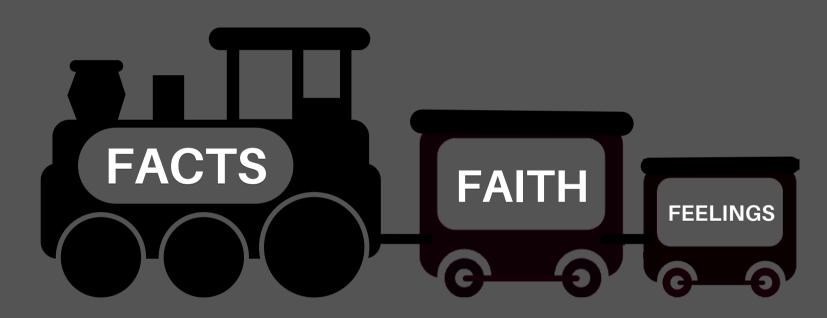
HOW DO I KNOW? #1 Witness of the Holy Spirit

FACTS:

THE CHRISTIAN

LIFE IS BASED

ON THE BIBLE.



FAITH: THE CHRISTIAN TRUSTS GOD AND HIS WORD (THE BIBLE).

FEELINGS: FEELINGS COME AND GO. FACTS DO NOT CHANGE.

HOW DO I KNOW? #2 Witness of The Word

1 John 5:11-13

And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 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, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

HOW DO I KNOW? #2 Witness of The Word

John 5:24

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life."



HOW DO I KNOW?

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Revelation 20:15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.