

Fifth Meeting**Why Don't I Have Assurance?**

And this is the testimony: 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. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you many know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:11-13

There are many people who go to church and yet confess, "I don't have assurance of salvation." It seems that there are more people who live this way, thought they do not confess it. It seems that there are even more people who spend their lives on foolish things because they do not have this assurance. Why do they go on living without this assurance? We must find the answer to this question.

1. It is because people they do not know the life of the saved.
 - 1) The saved person is the one who has accepted Jesus with clear understanding, a sincere heart, and professing lips (Jn 1:12, Rev 3:20).
 - 2) The person who has accepted Jesus as his Savior is controlled by the Holy Spirit, regardless of his personal ability or power. This is the life (Rom. 8:2, 1 Cor 3:16, 12:3).
 - 3) What is the condition of the one who does not have the life (Holy Spirit)?
 - (1) He is in the same condition as Adam and Eve when they sinned and ate the forbidden fruit and died spiritually.
 - (2) Satan controls that dead spirit (Jn 8:44, Acts 10:38).
 - (3) Even though he owns material things, he does not have peace (Mt 11:28-29).
 - (4) Even though he is successful, he will always have conflicts (Mt 12:25)
 - (5) Without him even knowing, Satan controls and rules his body (Eph 2:2-3).
 - (6) In time, his body becomes sick (Acts 8:4-8).
 - (7) He also has troubles in his heart and mind (Acts 16:16-18).
 - (8) On the day he leaves this world, he is going to hell (Lk 16-19-31).
2. It is because they do not know the blessings of the saved.
 - 1) The saved person is freed from the condemnation and punishment of sin (Eph 2:1).
 - (1) Original sin
 - (2) Individual's sins
 - (3) Ancestors' sins
 - 2) The saved person/he is immediately freed from the burdens of the world and the power of Satan (Eph 2:2).
 - 3) The saved person/he is eternally freed from the power of hell (Eph 2:6).
 - 4) The saved person/he may leave his testimony for generations to come (Eph 2:7).
3. It is because they do not know the privileges of the saved (Mt 16:13-20).
 - 1) God gave the privilege of proclaiming the gospel only to the saints.
 - (1) He makes them as firm as rocks (sanctification).
 - (2) He establishes the church (salvation).
 - 2) He gave the privilege to overcome Satan's power only to the saints.
 - (1) The saints must be ready for spiritual combat (1 Pe 5:8, Jas 4:7).
 - (2) The saints must remain ready till the end for this spiritual combat (Lk 18:5).
 - 3) He gave the privilege of answered prayer only to the saints.
 - (1) The blessings received by the unsaved are within God's providence and Satan's limited power (Pr 16:4).
 - (2) The saints have the key (of prayer).
4. It is because they do not know the lifestyle of the saved.
 - 1) Examine the lifestyle of the unsaved (and see if there is a difference).
 - 2) The saints must be led by the Holy Spirit (Jn 14:26-27).
 - (1) They should cast away their anxieties (1 Pe 5:7).
 - (2) They should completely deny themselves, then they can be perfectly led by the Holy Spirit (Gal 2:20).
 - (3) They should get rid of impure, hidden motives. These motives many bring apparent success but will end in failure because the Spirit of god cannot be deceived by man (Acts 5:1-10).
 - 3) If you are led by the Holy Spirit,
 - (1) Jesus Christ must be the center of your life (2 Cor 5:17).
 - (2) Prayer must be a high priority in our daily life (Acts 16:13,16).
 - (3) Your life itself must be a proclamation of the gospel (Acts 1:8).