

Study Guide: 1 John Lesson 64- The Foundation of Christian Assurance
Wednesday, June 3, 2026

This study guide examines the foundation of Christian assurance based on the teachings of 1 John. It explores the permanent nature of salvation, the biblical promises that support eternal security, and the importance of having confidence in one's relationship with God. By looking at various scriptures and real-life examples, this document helps clarify why a believer can trust that their salvation is secure forever.

Review Quiz

1. Why is having assurance of salvation considered essential for living an effective Christian life?
 2. What does the lesson teach regarding the "fine print" or "escape clauses" in the new covenant of salvation?
 3. According to the discussion of John 5:24, what three things happen to a person who hears the Word and believes in Him who sent Jesus Christ?
 4. How does the speaker describe the spiritual state of a person who constantly doubts their salvation?
 5. Based on John 6:37-40, what is the role of the Son in preserving those whom the Father has given Him?
 6. In the context of the orthopedic and family prayer requests mentioned, what does the opening prayer acknowledge about God's character?
 7. How does the "living water" promised by Jesus Christ in John 4:13-14 differ from physical water?
 8. What is the "chain of salvation" described in Romans 8:29-30 that leads from eternity past to eternity future?
 9. How is Jesus Christ's role as a "defense attorney" described when Satan or others bring charges against a believer?
 10. According to the transcript, what is the "only unpardonable sin," and how does it relate to the Holy Spirit?
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Answer Key

1. Assurance is vital because it is difficult to be a productive or "sold out" Christian while doubting your standing with God. Without confidence, a person's spiritual energy is sapped by fear and despair, making it hard to talk to others about a salvation they think they might lose.
 2. The lesson emphasizes that there is no "fine print" or "Section 42B" in the new covenant that would render salvation null and void. God does not have an escape clause; once He grants salvation, it is a permanent gift that He will not take back.
 3. A person who hears and believes has everlasting life immediately and is guaranteed they shall not come into judgment. Furthermore, that individual has already passed from the state of death into the state of life.
 4. A person who doubts their salvation is described as having a problem with God, the Bible, and the truth. Their spiritual energy is taken away by doubt and fear, which prevents them from being abandoned to praising and worshiping the Lord.
 5. Jesus Christ promises that He will by no means cast out anyone who comes to Him. He also states that it is the Father's will that He should lose nothing but should raise up every believer on the last day.
 6. The prayer acknowledges that the Father is in control of everything and knows every concern and care of the heart. It emphasizes that He is worthy to be praised and that He hears and answers the petitions of His people for the sake of His glory.
 7. Physical water provides only temporary satisfaction, meaning a person will eventually thirst again. In contrast, the water Jesus Christ gives becomes a perpetual fountain within the believer that springs up into everlasting life.
 8. This process begins with those whom God foreknew and predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son. Those individuals are then called, justified, and ultimately glorified, representing a complete process that God Himself carries out.
 9. Jesus Christ is the finest defense attorney in the universe who has never lost a client to the accuser. He sits at the right hand of the Father interceding for believers, ensuring that because their sins are paid for, no charge against them can stand in the court of heaven.
 10. The only unpardonable sin is the rejection of Jesus Christ. Because rejecting Christ is the same as rejecting the Holy Spirit's testimony, there is no forgiveness for those who ultimately refuse to believe in Him.
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Essay Questions

1. Explain the distinction between "having" secure salvation as a fact and "feeling" secure in that salvation. Why might a true believer lack the feeling of assurance?
2. Analyze the letter written to John MacArthur. How do the writer's self-descriptions as "manure" or a "mongrel dog" reflect a misunderstanding of the "foundation of Christian assurance"?
3. Discuss the argument provided in the text regarding Hebrews 6:4-6. Why does the speaker believe that those who "fall away" were never truly saved in the first place?
4. Using the provided references from Romans 8, explain why no "created thing" can separate a believer from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
5. Evaluate the role of "works" versus "grace" in different religious traditions as described in the source. How does a "works-oriented" mindset impact a person's assurance of eternal life?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **Assurance:** The internal confidence and certainty a believer has that they are "of the truth" and possess eternal life.
- **Apostate:** A person who has known the truth of the Gospel but ultimately turns away and rejects God.
- **Covenant:** A formal and binding agreement; in this context, the New Covenant is God's promise of salvation through Jesus Christ.
- **Condemnation:** A legal sentence of guilt or punishment; Romans 8:1 states there is none for those in Christ Jesus.
- **Election:** The biblical concept of being chosen or "selected" by God before the foundation of the world.
- **Glorification:** The final stage of salvation where the believer is made perfect and completely sanctified in the presence of God.
- **Inheritance:** The spiritual "wealth" or reward reserved in heaven for believers, described as incorruptible and undefiled.
- **Interceding:** The act of Jesus Christ acting as a mediator or advocate for believers before God the Father.
- **Justified:** Being declared righteous or "not guilty" before God through faith in Jesus Christ.

- **Predestined:** The doctrine that God determined beforehand the ultimate destiny of those He called to salvation.
 - **Sanctify:** The process of being made holy or set apart for God's use.
 - **Sovereignty:** God's absolute power and authority to rule over the nations and to accomplish His purposes.
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Greek Terminology

Agape¹

- **Phonetic Pronunciation:** [ah-gah-pay]
 - **Definition:** This refers to the highest form of Christian love, which is selfless and sacrificial. In the study context, it refers to the "Agape Box," a place where church members can give their offerings or gifts as an act of love.
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¹ The source transcript uses the phonetic spelling "agopy" when referring to the "Agape box" located in the foyer.