

## **Assurance of Salvation**

### Assurance Resides in the Word of God

The Bible is God's Word (2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pt 1:21; 1 Thes 2:13). The person who has trusted in Christ is to believe implicitly the Word of God. The following verses affirm that the one who believed can be assured of his salvation (Jn 10:27-29; 11:25-26; Acts 16:30-31; Eph 2:8-9; 1 Jn 5:11-12). Our response to this Word is a quiet confidence in what is written. Belief will dispel doubts.

### Assurance Rests on the Work of Christ

Man can be confident of his salvation since it is not based on his own works but on the death of Christ. He died for our sins (1 Cor 15:3; Isa 53:5-6; 2 Cor 5:20-21; Gal 1:4). He absorbed the punishment for man's sin. We are freed from sin's penalty. God can save man on the basis of Christ's death (Rom 3:21-26).

### Assurance Results from the Witness of the Holy Spirit

When a person has recognized his sinfulness (Rom 3:23) and believed in Christ for salvation from sin, the Holy Spirit takes up residence in that person (Eph 1:13-14; Gal 3:13-14; 1 Cor 6:19-20). The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is a proof of salvation (Rom 8:9).

## The Holy Spirit

Witnesses to us (Heb 10:12-17). He witnesses to the facts that Christ died and our sins are forgiven.

Witnesses in the believer (1 Jn 5:6, 9-11). The Holy Spirit witnesses to faith because believing is a link between God's Word and Christ's death.

Witnesses with the believer (Rom 8:15-17; Gal 4:6). The Holy Spirit witnesses to feelings. This is a subjective experience.

Assurance then does not reside in human opinion but in the Word of God. It does not rest on human effort but the work of Christ. It does not result from human emotion but the witness of the Holy Spirit.