1. Everyone is a sinner and needs to be saved.

- **a.** Romans 3;10-12, 23 (KJV) 10 As it is written, there is none righteous, no not one: 11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.
 12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. (cF Ps. 14:1-3) (Eph. 2:8-9) (Titus 3:5) 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.
- b. Isa. 64:6 ... and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags... (cF Mt. 7:21-23)

2. The penalty for sin.

- a. Romans 6:23 (KJV) 23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- **b.** Proverbs 14:12; 16:25 (KJV) There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

3. The means of salvation.

- a. John 14:6 (KJV) 6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the father, but by me.
- **b.** Acts 4:12 (KJV) 12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

4. How to be saved.

- a. John 1:12 (KJV) 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- **b.** Acts 16:31 (KJV) 31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and shalt be saved, and thy house.
- c. Romans 10:9-10,13 (KJV) 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
- **d. 2 Cor. 6:2** ...now is the accepted time... now is the day of salvation... (cF Pro. 27:1; 2 Cor. 6:2) (James 4:13-14)

5. The assurance of salvation.

a. 1 John 5:11-13 (KJV) 11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. 13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye may have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

"Destination Salvation"

The ABC's of becoming a Christian

A - <u>ADMIT</u>

- 1) Admit to God that you are a sinner. (Luke 18:10-14)
 - a. All are sinners (Romans 3:10-12, 23)
 - b. You cannot earn salvation (Eph. 2:8-9, Titus 3:5)

B – <u>BELIEVE</u>

- 1. Jesus Christ is the only means of salvation. (John 14:6, Acts 4:12)
 - a. Believe only in Jesus and His name (John 3:16-18, 1 John 5:11-13)
 - b. You must believe in your heart (Romans 10:9-10)

C – <u>CONFESS</u>

1. Confess with your mouth openly (Romans 10:9-10)

"My Salvation Story"

1 – <u>Before I became a Christian</u>

2 – <u>How I became a Christian</u>

3 – <u>Since I became a Christian</u>

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"SALVATION"

All Men – (1 Tim. 2:4-6; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 John 2:2)

God does not desire that anyone perish – (Ezek. 18:23,32;18:19-32; 33:11)

- > All people are sinners and come short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)
- There is no one that is righteous or doeth good. (Romans 3:10-12)
- Why the above? We are all born in sin, thus becoming sinners. (Psalms 51:5, 58:3)
- > The wages of sin is death. (Romans 6:23)
- > The gift of God (God's Son) is everlasting life; in Jesus Christ. (John 3:16)
- > This eternal life is in God's Son Jesus Christ. (John 5:11-13)
 - Remember Satan knows the bible and can quote scripture. (Matthew 4:1-11)
- As sinful human beings we reason (think) within ourselves that we are doing right and don't need to be saved. (Proverbs 14:12; Proverbs 16:25)
- > You are not to do anything good enough to earn salvation. (Eph. 2:8-9)
- There was a religious leader (Nicodemus) who talked with Jesus who told him the only way he could get to heaven. (John 3:1-18)
- There were religious people who thought that they were going to heaven because of their good life and all of their good deeds. (Matthew 7:21-23)
- Just because you use the name of Jesus, do good things, and say you believe in Jesus (the demons believed and devils trembled – Jas. 2:19); all of this comes from your head and your lips and not from your heart. (Matthew 7:6)
- To be saved, the <u>old man</u> (natural flesh) must die, then become (Eph. 4:22-24) a <u>new</u> <u>man</u> (spiritual, spiritually); this is called being "<u>born again</u>" – saved by Jesus Christ from above. (John 3:3-7)
- When you are born again you become a new creature, creation. (2 Cor. 5:17)
- When you are born again your lifestyle will change. (Col. 3:1-17)
- A man is only born again when knowledge of God and all of his good deeds (I believe in Jesus, I go to church, I read my bible, I help people, I am not such a bad person, etc.) must pass from his "head" and "enter into his heart". (Romans 10:9-10,13)
- No matter who you are, where you are, or what you say or have done (good or no matter how bad) God loves you. (John 3:16; Romans 5:8)
 God is not willing that anyone should die in their sins and go to hell. (2Peter 3:9; (cF 1 Tim. 2:4-6) (cF 1 John 2:2)

PLEASE - If God is speaking to your heart right now, today is the day to be saved

and born again.

(2 Cor. 6:2) (cF Proverbs 27:1; Jas. 4:13-15)

SAVED

<u>"Everlasting"</u> <u>"Eternal"</u> <u>"Forever"</u>

1-When Jesus saves us, it is forever. Define these words:

a- Everlasting – (John 3:16, 36; 5:24;6:47)

b- Eternal – (John 3:15; 10:28; Romans 6:23, 1 John 5:11,13)

2-Believers are safe forever because we are held in the hand of God and Jesus. (John 10:27-30)

No one can remove us from their hand at any time.

3-Believers cannot be separated from the love of God. (Romans 8:35-39)

4-Paul was confident that God would finish what He had started. (Phil. 1:6)

5-Paul was persuaded that God could keep that (his soul) which he had committed unto Him.

(2 Tim. 1:12; Eph. 4:30; Romans 8:23)

6-Jesus keeps the believer safe and He will not lose a single one. (John 17:12, cf John 6:39)

"The Most Important Reason"

For sin is to be forgiven, <u>blood</u> must be shed. (Hebrews 9:22) (Lev.17:11) In this day of "<u>Grace</u>", the only way a person can be saved is by applying the shed blood of Jesus Christ to their sinful souls. This can be done "only one time" because He died only one time. (Hebrews 10:10,12,14) When Jesus died on the cross He said <u>"It is finished"</u> (John 19:30); Jesus died once, rose from the dead never to die again – therefore there is no more blood to atone for sins. Jesus' blood is sufficient forevermore.

<u>One question</u> – If you have had the blood of Jesus applied to your soul for your sins one time, you are saved now and forever, so if you could lose your salvation and need to be saved "again" where will the atoning blood for your sins come from? (Hebrews 10:18) Remember – Jesus died once, rose again to die no more, Jesus said "<u>It is finished</u>" There is no more blood to atone for sin. (Rev. 1:18) Jesus sat down on the right hand of God. (Psalms 110:1,10:12; Hebrews 1:3)

Just take Jesus at His Word – AMEN

"Blessed Assurance"

We stand upon the Word of God – the BIBLE

- 1. Who can explain God? (Romans 11:33)
- 2. God's thoughts and ways are higher than ours. (Isa. 55:8-9)
- 3. God will always do what is right. (Gen. 18:25)

"<u>All</u>" who have been born again will go to heaven, there will be no one left behind. We believe and trust in this because of what God tells us in His Holy Word – God cannot lie. (Titus 1:2)

Scriptures to support our beliefs and teachings:

- a. You can know if you have eternal life. (1 John 5:11-13)
- b. Everlasting life. (John 3:16, 36;6:37-40,44,47)
- c. God will finish what he starts. (Phil. 1:6)
- d. Jesus will lose no one. (John 6:39; John 10:27-30)
- e. You cannot be separated from God. (Romans 8:35-39)
- f. Nothing or no one can take you out of God's hand (John 10:27-30)
- g. You are kept by God's power. (1 Peter 1:5) (2 Timothy 1:12)
- h. You are sealed by the Holy Spirit. (Eph. 4:30) (Eph. 1:12-14)
- i. Your redemption will be completed. (Romans 8:23)
- j. God will take us home, one day very soon. (1 Thess. 4:13-18) (1 Cor. 15:51-53)

<u>Note</u>: Is there any sin that will keep any born again saint out of heaven? NO! not even suicide. <u>Biblical proof</u>: (lost man – sin unbelief – John 8:24)

- <u>Samson</u> he not only committed suicide but he was assisted by God himself. (Judges 16:28-31) (Hebrews 11:32)
- Saul he fell down on his own sword and committed suicide. (1 Samuel 31:1-6)

Question: If the sin of suicide can keep a Christian out of heaven what about other type of sin? Most all Christians will die with unconfessed sins in their life – then what?

(Eph.1:13-14)

<u>'Sealed'</u> and <u>'Earnest'</u>

- "<u>Sealed</u>" (27x) (4972) (Gk. Sphragizo, sfrag-id'-zo) means: to stamp, with a signet or private mark, for security or permanency or preservation.
 - a. Stresses the sacred formalities of the transactions and guarantees the full completement of the contents.
 - b. Ownership and security together with <u>destination</u>. (John 14:1-3)
 - c. Scriptures: (Eph. 1:13-14; 4:30) (cF Romans 8:35-39; 2 Tim.1:12) God will finish – complete what He begins. (Phil. 1:6)
- "<u>Earnest</u>" (13x) (728) (Gk. arhabon, ar-harb-ohn') means: a pledge, i.e., part of the purchase – money or property given in advance as security for the rest.
 - a. In the N.T. it is used only of that which is assured by God to believers. (2 Cor. 1:18-22)
 - b. Scriptures: (2 Cor. 1:18-22; 5:5-9)

Note Remember, in the redemptive plan of salvation the **soul** has already been redeemed, but, the **body** has yet to be redeemed. This will take place at the time of the rapture of the church. (1 Cor.15:51-53; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; cF Romans 8:23). At that time, we will receive our full **inheritance** (Eph.1:11)

3. "<u>Inheritance</u>" (14x) (2817) (Gk. kleronomia, klay-ron-om-ee-ah) means: the prospective condition and possessions of the believer in the new order of things to be ushered in at the return of Christ. Scriptures: Acts 20:32; Eph.1:4,5:5; Col. 3:24; Hebrews 9:15;1 Peter 1:4)

Philippians 1:6

- A. The teaching in John 13:4-11 is best outlined in <u>Philippians 1:6</u>. The complete redemption work of Christ: "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."
 - 1. "that he which hath begun a good work in you"
 - i. Justified Romans 3:24-25; Justification Romans 4:16-25.
 - ii. Saved from the "penalty" of sin. (John 5:24)
 - iii. "<u>Past-tense</u>" a completed act never needed to be repeated.

2. "will perform it"

- i. Sanctifies Acts 26:17-18; Sanctification 2 Thess. 2:13
- ii. Saved from the "**power"** of sin. Romans 6:14
- iii. "<u>Present tense</u>" a continuous on going act.
- 3. "<u>until the day of Jesus Christ</u>"
 - i. <u>Glorified</u> Romans 8:30; <u>Glorification</u> –
 - ii. Saved from the "presence" of sin. Rev. 21:27,22:3
 - iii. "Future tense" yet to come. Romans 8:23; 1 Cor. 15:51-57;

1 Thess. 4:13-18

Questions: Feel free to call Greene Faulkner 252-432-7028

"Assurance of Salvation"

"The Importance of Assurance"

1.

a. In Christian experience, assurance that one is saved by faith in Christ is essential to the whole program of growth in grace and in the knowledge of Christ. Assurance is a matter of experience and relates to personal confidence in present salvation. (Phil. 1:6) It should not be confused with the doctrine of eternal security. Eternal security is a question of fact, while assurance is a matter of what one believes at a given time concerning his personal salvation. (Romans 10:9,10)

Assurance of salvation depends upon three (3) major aspects of experience:

- 1. Understanding of the completeness of the salvation provided in Jesus Christ. (John 19:30)
- 2. The confirming testimony of Christian experience. (2 Cor. 5:17)
- Acceptance by faith of biblical promises of salvation. (Romans 10:9,10)

"Understanding the Nature of Salvation"

b. Essential to any real assurance of salvation is a clear understanding of what was accomplished by Jesus Christ in his death on the cross. (Eph. 1:7) Salvation is not a work of man for God, but a work of God for man. It depends completely upon divine grace without respect to human merit. (Eph. 2:8,9) One who understands that Jesus Christ died for him and provided a complete salvation which is offered to anyone who sincerely believes in Christ can have assurance of his salvation just as soon as he meets the condition of trusting in Christ as his Savior. In many cases, lack of assurance is due to incomplete understanding of the nature of salvation. (John 19:30) (Romans 10:13)

Assurance of Salvation- continued

Once it is understood that salvation is a gift which cannot be earned, cannot be obtained by human effort, and cannot be deserved, and is available as a gift of God to all who will receive it by faith, a proper basis for assurance of salvation is provided, and the question resolves itself into the issue of whether one has really trusted in Christ. The question can be answered by the confirmations that are found in Christian experience of a person who has received salvation. (Eph. 2:8,9)

Among the various divine accomplishments which together constitute the salvation of a soul, the importation of a new life from God is, in the Bible, given the supreme emphasis. (2 Cor.5:17) Upwards of 85 New Testament scriptures attest the features of saving grace. (Romans 4:20-25) Consideration of these scriptures discloses the fact that this imparted life is the "gift" of God to all who believe on Christ (John 10:28; Romans 6:23). It is from Christ (John 14:6), it is Christ indwelling the believer in the sense that eternal life is inseparable from Him. (Col.1:27;1 John 5:11,12), and therefore is as eternal as He is eternal.

Scriptures

1 Cor.6:19; Romans 8:38-39; John 10:27-30; 2 Tim. 1:12; John 3:16

2."The Confirming Testimony of Christian Experience"

On the basis of the fact that Christ indwells him, the believer is appointed to judge himself as to whether he is in the faith (2 Cor. 13:5). The heart wherein Christ dwells will be aware of His presence. The Christian is not left to his own misguided feelings and imaginations. For the Christian who is subject to the Word of God (the Bible), this revealed truth serves a twofold purpose:

- 1. It protects against the assumption that fleshly emotionalism is of God.
- It sets a standard of spiritual reality toward which all who are saved should ceaselessly strive. (Phil. 3:14; Hebrews 12:1-2 Cor. 5:17) The new life in Christ which results from being saved by faith issues in certain major manifestations:
 - The knowledge that God is our Heavenly Father is one of the precious experiences which belong to one who has put his trust in Christ – (Matt. 11:27)
 - A new reality in prayer is another confirming experience which leads to assurance – (Romans 8:26-27)
 - A new ability to understand scripture is another important experience – John 16:12-15)
 - A new sense of the sinfulness of sin is the normal experience of one who is saved – (Psalms 119:11)
 - ➤ A new love is realized for the unsaved (Romans 5:5)
 - A new love is experienced for the saved (1 John 3:14)
 - A supreme basis for salvation is manifestation of the character of Christ in the believer – (Gal. 5:22-23)
 - The combined experiences of the Christian life bring a consciousness of salvation through faith in Christ – (2 Tim. 1:12)

3. <u>"Accepting the veracity of the Promises of the Bible"</u>

1- <u>Confidence that the Bible is true and that its promises of salvation will</u> <u>certainly be fulfilled is essential to assurance of salvation</u> – (Phil. 1:6)

Above and beyond all that the believer may experience there is given the abiding evidence of the dependable Word of God. Assurance is given to every believer by the Word of God that he may know that he has eternal life. (1 John 5:13) This assurance is made to rest, not on a changeable experience, but upon the things that are written in the unchangeable Word of God. (Psalms 119:89,160; 1 Peter 1:25) The written promises of God are like a title deed (John 3:16,36;5:24;6:37; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:13) These realities are to be reckoned as accomplished on no other ground than the veracity of God.

2- <u>Doubting whether one has really committed himself to faith in Christ and</u> <u>the promises of God is destructive to the Christian faith.</u>

It is imperative to know that you are now trusting in Christ without reference to the time it began. Obviously the cure for any uncertainty as to one's acceptance of Christ is to receive Christ now. One lacking assurance that he has actually committed himself by faith to God for the salvation which only God can supply should remedy this lack by taking the definite step of faith. (1 Peter 1:25) (2 Tim. 1:12) This is an act of the will, although it may be accompanied by emotion and necessarily requires some understanding of the doctrine of salvation. There must be a definite act of receiving Christ by faith as savior for real assurance. (Romans 10:9-13)

"Accepting the veracity of the Promises of the Bible" – continued

3- Doubting the faithfulness of God is fatal to any true experience of <u>assurance</u>.

Some lack assurance of their salvation because they are not sure that God has actually received and saved them. (John 6:37) This state of mind is usually caused by looking for a change in their feelings rather than looking to the faithfulness of Christ. Feelings and experiences have their place, but as stated before, the final evidence of personal salvation, which is unchanged by these, is the truthfulness of God. **What He has said, He will do.** (Psalms 119:60; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:17-<u>18</u>; Rom. 4:20-25)

4- <u>Assurance of salvation depends upon understanding the nature of God's</u> <u>complete salvation for those who put their trust in Christ.</u>

It is most essential that the Christian realize that assurance of salvation depends upon the certainty that the individual has committed himself by faith to Jesus Christ in keeping with these promises. One who has made this commitment can rely upon the faithfulness of God, who cannot lie, to keep His promises and to save the believer by divine power and grace. (Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18; Eph. 2:8-9)

"Our <u>True</u> Identity in Christ"

- We are declared "not guilty" of sin. (Romans 3:24)
- No condemnation awaits us. (Romans 8:1)
- We are free from the vicious cycle of sin and death. (Romans 8:2)
- We are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 1:2)
- ▶ We are pure and holy. (1 Cor. 1:30)
- We will rise again. (1 Cor. 15:22)
- We are free from trying to be saved by being good enough. (2 Cor. 3:17)
- We are brand new people inside. (2 Cor. 5:17)
- ➢ We are full of God's goodness. (2 cor. 5:21)
- We are one in Christ with all other believers. (Gal. 3:28)
- We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in heaven. (Eph. 1:3)
- We are holy, faultless, and covered with God's love. (Eph. 1:4)
- We belong to Christ. (Eph. 1:5-6)
- Our sins are taken away and we are forgiven. (Eph. 1:7)
- > We will live with Christ forever. (Eph. 1:10-11)
- We are marked as belonging God by the Holy Spirit. (Eph. 1:13)
- > We have been lifted from the grave to sit with Christ in glory. (Eph. 2:6)
- We have been given new lives. (Eph. 2:10)
- We have been brought near to God. (Eph. 2:13)
- We will receive great blessings. (Eph. 3:6)
- We can come fearlessly into God's presence. (Eph. 3:12; Hebrews 4:14-16)
- We are part of Christ's body, the Church, (Eph. 5:29-20)
- We have everything because we have Christ, we are filled with God. (Col. 2:10)
- We are set free from our evil desires. (Col. 2:11)
- > We will have eternal glory. (2 Tim. 2:10)