

For Personal Reflection

- Is your assurance based on anything you're DOING?
- Is it based on what you're NOT DOING that you think makes you better than other?
- Or is it based on what God has DONE for us in His Son Jesus Christ?
- Do you doubt your salvation? If so, how frequently?
- When it comes to sin in your life... do you stumble or wallow? Are you a 'sheep' or a 'pig'?
- Do you have the assurance of salvation that's based on the clear indicators of God's Word in your life... or is it something else?
 1. Do you hunger to learn more from other believers so you can grow in grace and get closer to Christ?
 2. Do you have a healthy, humble awareness of your own sin against God?
 3. Are you still in love with the world? The way it thinks? The way it approaches life?
 4. Are you forming the habit of pleasing God... and sinning less?
 5. Do you live in conscious obedience to the Word of God?
 6. Do you long for Christ's return?

Soul Check

Are You Doubting or Delighting in Your Salvation?

So What Should I Look for in My Life? Part 2

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2 Corinthians 13:5 “Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?”

The Message “Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test, do something about it.”

Indicators of a new life from I John:

1. **Do You Want to Be with Other Christians or are You Still Flying Solo?**
2. **Are You Willing to Own Up to Your Own Sin with a Healthy, Humble Attitude or are You Still Hiding from God and Others?**
3. **Has Your Heart Been Captured by a Genuine Love for Christ or are You Still in Love with the World and its Ways?**
4. **Could You Honestly Say that in Your Life Right Now You Are Forming the Habit of Pleasing God and Sinning Less Year after Year?**

I John 3:7-10 *New American Standard* “ Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. No one who is born of God practices sin, because

His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.”

“Sinless” vs. “Sin Less”

God talks about your ‘To Do’ list as much as what’s on your ‘Not to Do’ list. The Christian man or woman is not characterized by what they DON’T do... they’re characterized by the fact that they PRACTICE righteousness.

Titus 2:13-14 “Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.”

5. Do You Live in Conscious Obedience to the Word of God?

I John 2:3-6 “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.”

Nobody stumbles into obeying God’s Word - it’s a choice, a fight.

I John 2:3-4 “Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not keep his commandments, is a liar...”

Obedience to the Word of God is supposed to characterize the life of somebody who claims to be a Christian.

If you can go on and live the rest of your life without ever obeying God again you show that you were never really saved.

Hebrews 4:12–13 “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

James 1:22-24 “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.”

6. Do You Long For and Regularly Think About Your Savior’s Death, Resurrection and Future Return?

I John 3:2-3 “Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

Revelation 19:11-16 “Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.