Assurance of Salvation

1 John 5:11-13 (NAS): ¹¹ And the witness is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹² He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. ¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life.

- Verse 13 is most important, but I also encourage you to memorize vv. 11-12.
- Salvation is a <u>present tense</u> gift; all who trust in Jesus alone <u>have</u> eternal life.
- God wants us to <u>know</u> and <u>be at peace</u>!

Assurance of Answered Prayer

John 16:24 (NAS): "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be made full."

- Jesus' disciples had been praying in the OT manner – praying to the LORD.
- Going forward, Jesus instructed them to pray to God the Father in Jesus' name. Let us *do the same and *reap the joy!

Assurance of Victory

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NAS): No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.

- God never tempts us (Jam. 1:13), but He controls the severity of our temptations.
- God always provides a way of escape.

Assurance of Forgiveness

1 John 1:9 (NAS): If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- Confession includes *godly sorrow (2Co. 7:10) and *trust alone in Jesus (Rom. 3:28).
- When we <u>know</u> Jesus, we are forgiven!

Assurance of Guidance

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NAS): ⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

- It's <u>natural</u> to trust our common sense.
- It's <u>God-honoring</u> and <u>best</u> to follow the Bible in every circumstance of our lives!

Review, Live, Share

- Once a verse is memorized, review it often. The longer you know it, the less often you will need to review it.
- As you learn a verse, *immediately and consistently apply it to your life*.
- When you are blessed by a passage, spread the joy by sharing it with others!

Part 1 Scripture: New American Standard, 1995

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Introduction

Dear Friend:

JESUS – *the Son of God in human flesh* – is exceedingly significant:

- He spoke the world into existence!
- The OT pointed to His saving work!
- He put on flesh and lived without sin!
- He bore our sin and our punishment!
- He is the way, the truth, and the life, the only way to heaven!

This brochure includes \$5 BIG events in the life of Jesus and \$5 KEY Bible passages. Please keep reading to reap the benefits.

Part 1: JESUS – The BIG 5

I'm referring to Jesus' <u>birth</u>, <u>life</u>, <u>death</u>, <u>resurrection</u>, and <u>ascension</u>! Use one hand to remember all 5! Let's consider how each item is \Rightarrow BIG and \Rightarrow for our eternal benefit.

<mark>Jesus' Birth</mark>: It was miraculous!

He would be born to a virgin: Isaiah 7:14 "...a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel [God with us]."

- His birth location was identified 700 years in advance: Micah 5:2 "...as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah [near Jerusalem]... From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel."
- He came for the <u>highest</u> to the <u>lowest</u>: Matthew 2:11 "[the magi] fell to the ground and worshiped Him." // "[shepherds]... found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger."

Jesus' Life: It was sinless!

- He was tempted but <u>never</u> fell into sin: Hebrews 4:15 "...we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in <u>all things</u> as we are, yet <u>without sin</u>."
- Peter wrote: 1 Peter 2:22 "...[Jesus] committed no sin..."
- Jesus was our sinless substitute:
 2 Corinthians 5:21 "[God the Father] made [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf..."

Jesus' Death: It was sacrificial!

- John the Baptizer said of Jesus: John 1:29 ... "Behold, the Lamb of God [the Ultimate Passover Lamb] who takes away the sin of the world!"
- Our sins became Jesus' sins: 1 Peter
 2:24 "...He Himself bore our sins in
 His body on the cross..."
- Jesus died for our sins: 1 Peter 3:18

"...Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God..."

Jesus' Resurrection: It was victorious!

- An angel announced: Matthew 28:6 "[Jesus] is not here [in this tomb], for He has risen, just as He said."
- Jesus said to His disciples see Me, touch Me, believe: Luke 24:39 "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see..."
- Peter preached on Pentecost: Acts
 2:23-24 "...you [Jews] nailed [Jesus] to
 a cross by the hands of godless men
 [the Romans] and put Him to death.
 But God raised Him [back to life]..."

Jesus' Ascension: Now He is reigning!

- Jesus said to His disciples: Matthew
 28:18 "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."
- God the Father's action: Ephesians

 1:20, 22 "...[He] seated [Jesus] at His
 right hand in the heavenly places...
 And He put all things in subjection
 under His feet, and gave Him as head
 over all things to the church..."
- John identified Jesus: Revelation 1:5 "Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth."

Use one hand to <u>remember</u> and <u>share</u> **JESUS' BIG 5**. Through Him we *exist, *are saved, and *are under His reign, so let us grow in <u>knowing Him, living for Him</u>, and <u>telling</u> <u>others about Jesus, the Christ</u>!

Part 2: <u>Assurance</u> – 5 Passages

We are very blessed to be Bible-believing Christians, but the devil is working to destroy our confidence in God's word. So, let us fight the devil with "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17). <u>How</u>? By memorizing **5 key passages** on the topic of assurance. Then, the Holy Spirit will use them in *powerful ways* in *our daily lives*!

The 5 Assurance Passages in this section are from the 1977 version of the New American Standard Bible. You can use the version listed or choose your own.

Scripture Memory Tips

For most people, memorizing involves going over a verse many times. By following these nine tips, you will <u>know the verse well</u>, <u>benefit from it</u>, and <u>be equipped to share it</u>:

- 1. Read the context of the verse (at least a few verses before and after).
- 2. Rightly understand the verse (consult a Study Bible, a Bible commentary, a pastor).
- 3. Learn the reference and the first phrase (*say it over and over*).
- 4. Add a phrase; then repeat all you have learned.
- 5. Say the verse out loud as you memorize it.
- 6. Say the reference, the version, the verse; then the reference and version again (then you will memorize the reference and the version along with the verse).
- 7. Pray about the verse.
- 8. Apply the verse to your life.
- 9. Share the verse with others.