

# Why Believers Struggle with Assurance of Salvation

*Isaiah 45:18-25*

How can I know that I am saved, that my sins are forgiven, that I have eternal life now and forever, and that I will never be condemned to Hell?

God's salvation promises are sure: If I believe on the Lord Jesus Christ I will be saved (*Acts 16:31*); if I believe in Christ, I will receive forgiveness of my sins (*Acts 10:43*); if I believe on Christ then I have everlasting life (*John 6:47*); if I believe on God I will never come into condemnation (*John 5:24*). I know God will keep His promises. If I do my part (believe on Christ), then God will do His part.

I don't doubt that God will do His part, but my struggle involves whether I have done my part. Have I really believed on the Lord? I think I have, but how can I be sure? Have I really exercised saving faith? There is a danger in introspection.

Assurance does not come by looking at my faith; it comes by looking unto Jesus. The more I examine my faith, the more discouraged I will be and the more doubts I will have. The more I look to my Saviour and contemplate His finished work, His saving power and His love for poor, lost sinners, the more my faith will be strengthened.

God never asked me to believe in my faith. Instead, I am commanded to place my weak faith in a wonderful Saviour, who has promised to save to the uttermost all that come to God through Him (*Hebrews 7:25*).

The renowned English pastor Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892) was saved December 1849 based on this text: "**Look unto Me**, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (*Isaiah 45:22*). The preacher addressed him, "Young man, look to Jesus Christ. Look! Look! You have nothing to do but look and live!"

~George Zeller:

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