

How God Gives Assurance of Salvation
International Bible Lesson
Hebrews 3:1-6 & Matthew 7:24-29
Sunday, October 9, 2016
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“But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory” (Hebrews 3:6).

How can anyone have the assurance of God's presence and help day-by-day no matter what happens to them? How can anyone have the assurance that God has prepared a glorious future for them after death? Christians receive the assurance of these facts from the Holy Spirit as He reveals the truth of God in the Bible to them and they believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The followers of Christ are God's house, and Christ is the faithful Son of God over all who trust in Him. What Christ begins in people, He will complete. The Bible also teaches true believers how they can maintain their assurance of salvation. First, true believers in Jesus Christ will fulfill their responsibilities and practice what Jesus taught. Jesus declared that wise people will build their lives on and

actually practice His teachings after they call Him their “Lord.” Then, when the storms of life in this world fall upon them they will stand firm and not fall away (see Matthew 7:16-29). Second, a true believer will grow in God’s grace and demonstrate substantially (though not perfectly) the fruit of the Holy Spirit; such as, “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control” (Galatians 5:22-23). Third, a true believer receives the assurance of salvation as they persevere in faith and follow Jesus Christ to the end of their life. With the Holy Spirit helping them as they practice their faith daily, they will maintain their confidence in Jesus Christ and their hope in the glorious future He has promised them.

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Thinking Further

1. When are some of the times we especially need to fix our eyes on Jesus?

2. What does it mean to you when you think about Moses having disobeyed and dishonored God in the wilderness, but still being considered faithful in all God's house?

3. What are some traits that distinguished Moses from Jesus? What trait did the writer of Hebrews say they shared?

4. What is the difference between practicing Jesus' words and not practicing Jesus' words? What difference, if any, does it make?

5. Why can't Christians teach exactly like Jesus taught today?