

The Confident Christian

Rom. 1:16-21

INTRODUCTION:

Romans 1:16-21 (NASB95)

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1 John 5:13 (NASB95)

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V. We KNOW that a True Christian does not Willfully Continue to Sin.

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VI. We Know that Our Salvation is Through Jesus Christ.

1 John 5:20 (NASB95)

CONCLUSION:

Romans 1:16-17 (NASB95)

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INTRODUCTION:

ILLUSTRATION:

We are constantly facing uncertainty during our lifetime on earth. There are many things we do not know.

Uncertainty of our Health.

- Health Insurance.
- Life Insurance.
- Wills

Uncertainty of the Weather.

- Harvest
- Ball Games
- Mowing Yard
- Picnics

Uncertainty of the Economy.

- Stocks or Bonds?
- Buy a House or Rent?
- New or Used?
- Buy Now or Wait?
- Jar Doctor Supplies

Uncertainty of Security.

- Security Systems
- Door Locks
- Safes

Have you ever thought to yourself or expressed, **“Is God Real, or is He just another Easter Bunny or Santa Clause?”** In other words, how can we have the faith and confidence that He is God the Creator?

Secondly, have you ever thought to yourself or expressed, **“I Hope I’m Saved”**. How can we have the confidence that we are saved?

ILLUSTRATION:

Dad’s Death.

Dad died on Wednesday, October 16th at 1:13 in the afternoon ten years ago.

There was a peace that came with his death. Although I will miss him dearly, I knew that he was in the presence of God in all of his glory and he did not have to suffer any longer.

Considering his condition with Pulmonary Fibrosis, a disease that creates scar tissue on the lungs and hardens the lung walls, he passed with little suffering. He actually suffocated to death, but was not aware of it. I came in Wednesday morning and patted him on the shoulder and said, “Dad, this is Wayne, I am here”, but he did not respond. I don’t believe that he knew I was there that day. My mom and I watched as his vital signs kept declining. His oxygen level was supposed to stay above 90. He was on full oxygen, it kept dropping from the 70’s down to the 20’s, and finally was getting an oxygen reading of zero. He would suck up a small breath of air and bump it up for a short time. Eventually he went for a couple of minutes with the oxygen level at zero. We saw his heart rate drop way down and finally flat lined. He had passed on.

I felt a peace that could only be experienced as a Christian.

There had been so many prayers that dad would not suffer. I definitely felt the power of prayer during that time. I was able to spend many hours of quality time with dad during his final days. He was ready to go.

At his funeral, I gave a small sermonette and sang “How Great Thou Art”.

At the end of the sermonette, I said that if dad could look down and talk to us right now, this is what I believe he would say: “Working for God on earth is hard, but His retirement plan is out of this world”!

So where did this confidence come from? How can we have the confidence to know that we are prepared to meet the Lord?

The scriptures tell us that we can be certain of the existence of God, that we are a Christian, and that by the grace of God, we will have an eternal life in the presence of God and all of His Glory.

All Stand and Read Scripture

Romans 1:16-21 (NASB95)

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “But the righteous *man* shall live by faith.”

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. ²¹ For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Prayer

BODY:

I. We Can SEE God through His Creation

First we need to KNOW that God is the creator and in control.

From Genesis 1 and John 1, we know that God, through Christ, created all things and set everything in motion. The world would fall apart without God. WE are part of God's creation.

Colossians 1:16-17 (NASB95)

¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

How can we be certain that God was the creator? The scriptures tell us that if we examine God's creation, we will see His handiwork.

Psalms 19:1 (NASB95)

¹⁹ The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

As we saw in our text, the scriptures also tell us that we are without excuse when it comes to knowing that there is a God because He has made it evident to all of everyone that lives on this earth. This is a passage of scripture that everyone on earth needs to read and understand about God.

Romans 1:18-20 (NASB95)

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

ILLUSTRATION:

Man, with all his knowledge and wisdom, cannot create a single seed that could be planted in the earth and have it grow into a living plant, tree, vine, or bush. Imagine how much more difficult it would be to create an embryo from fluids and have it grow to a living, breathing, intelligent animal or human.

It would take **much more faith** to believe that the beauty of our earth and all of the details of a leaf or a plant, or all of the varieties of birds and animals, or the beauty of the sunrise or sunset could happen accidentally at random, than the **faith** to believe that it was created by God.

John wrote I John 5 so we could **Know** that we are a saved Christian.

1 John 5:13 (NASB95)

¹³ These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

II. We Can KNOW that We are Christian or a "Child of God".

1 John 5:1-5 (NASB95)

5 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the *child* born of Him. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

⁵ Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Many people wrongly believe that everyone is a child of God. Since human beings are created in God's image we want to consider ourselves as one of His children. But the Bible says no!. Every human being is designed by God and loved by Him, but we can only become His children when we are adopted by Him. Because of our sin, we live under the tyranny of Satan, the god of this world.. We are enslaved by sin and live by its rules.. If we are living in sin, we cannot enter the presence of a holy God. Our sin must be forgiven and our relationship to God restored before we can have fellowship with the One we have offended.

Paul describes what happens when we are born again into the family of God through faith in Jesus:

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NASB95)

¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*

To be a child of God means our old sin nature is replaced with a nature that wants to please the Lord. We will still sin but we have an advocate with the Father through Jesus Christ. Being a child of God means our sins are paid for and our fellowship with God has been restored.

III. We Can KNOW that We have Eternal Life with God.

The scriptures tell us that everyone has an **eternal** soul. Only the Christian or "Child of God" will spend eternity with God in His presence and glory. Everyone else will spend eternity separated from the glory of God. It will be a sinful place filled with torment and distress with Satan and his fallen angels.

One might be fearful that confidence in our eternal salvation might sound a little arrogant!

But I would contend that **true arrogance** would be to say that there is no God and creation happened by accident.

1 John 5:10-13 (NASB95)

¹⁰ The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. ¹¹ And the testimony 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, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

IV. We Can KNOW that God will Answer a Christians Prayer.

It is easy for us to wonder at times when we pray if we are really talking to a living God or are we just speaking empty words that no one will hear? The closer we are to God and the more we are in communication with Him, the more we will know that God is listening and answering prayer.

1 John 5:14-15 (NASB95)

¹⁴ This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us *in whatever we ask*, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.

V. We KNOW that a True Christian does not Willfully Continue to Sin.

Hebrews 10:26 (NASB95)

²⁶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

When the author of Hebrews says "*if we go on sinning willfully*", he is not talking about the "normal" sins that every believer commits. If he were, then who could be saved? No one has ever lived without sin after salvation! While we do sometimes sin inadvertently, most of our sins are willful! We sin because we **choose** to sin! The Bible is clear that if we sin, God graciously forgives and cleanses us when we confess our sins. Confession is more than just telling God "I have sinned". It requires repentance and the constant effort to abstain from that sin in the future.

VI. We Know that Our Salvation is Through Jesus Christ.

1 John 5:20 (NASB95)

²⁰ And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

We are utterly unable to save ourselves because of our sin and its consequences. God became a human being in the person of Jesus Christ. He lived a **sinless** life and offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice on our behalf.

Since Jesus is God, His death was of infinite and eternal value. The death of Jesus Christ on the cross fully paid for the sins of the entire world. His resurrection from the dead demonstrated that His sacrifice was indeed sufficient and that salvation is now available.

We receive our salvation by believing that Jesus is the Son of God and was the Messiah prophesied in the Old Testament. Throughout the New Testament, when a person accepted Jesus as their Savior, they were immediately baptized.

CONCLUSION:

We Can See God through His Creation and Know that He is in Control.

We Can Know that We are Christian or a "Child of God".

We Can Know that We have Eternal Life with God".

We Know that God will Answer a Christians Prayer.

We Know that a Christian does not Continue Sinning.

We Know that Our Salvation is Through Jesus Christ.

ILLUSTRATION:

Is Christianity a reality in your life, or just a concept?

If we could video your life and hear all of your thoughts...

- Would we witness a constant attention to God in everything that you do?
- Would we see you in prayer?
- Would we see you reading the Bible to gain knowledge and faith?
- OR...Would we see lust of the eyes or lust of possessions and worldly passions?

Heaven and earth is passing away. Our life is but a vapor. If anyone loves the world, the love of the father is not in Him.

What does your heart long for?

Do you long for the time when Christ will come again?

Do you long for the time that you will be in the presence and glory of God?

Are you allowing Christ to be Lord of your life?

These are the signs that can give us the confidence to KNOW that we are a Child of God and will have an Eternal Life with Him.

Romans 1:16-17 (NASB95)

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "But the righteous *man* shall live by faith."

What a Day That Will Be.