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**In Christ
and
How we can Know
if we are
In Christ**

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Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

In Christ, and How we can Know if we are in Christ.

Introduction: this study looks at how we can search ourselves to examine if we are in Christ or not. The apostle Paul wrote:

- **Romans 8:1-2:** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Clearly, to be free of condemnation, we must be, 'in Christ,' which means, whoever is in Christ is saved, because they are free of condemnation. This is a fantastic truth, which raises the question, "how can we know we are in Christ?" To answer this question, I would suggest, if you can say 'yes' to the following twelve statements, you are in Christ.

1. Believe God is the creator and source of all life, and the heavenly Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that Jesus is His beloved Son.
2. Believe the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and the message of the bloodstained cross of calvary.
3. Have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and trust in Him for salvation, and righteousness that leads to eternal life, and not in your own works.
4. Have a passionate devotion and love toward God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
5. Love Christian fellowship, reading and studying the Bible, growing in Scriptural knowledge, and sharing your testimony and God's word when opportunities arise.
6. Are fully aware you are a sinner before God, have repented, been water baptised and made Christ the King and Lord of your life.
7. Wished you could attain to the perfections of Christs character, and His love, and the compassion He showed to all people, and to the perfect law of God.
8. Have a personal love relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, and His heavenly Father.
9. Endeavour to live a life that honours God, and brings a good testimony to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Christian faith (I say endeavour because not one of us attain to this perfectly, if we could Christ died for no reason).
10. Grieve when you fall short of Christs perfect love, compassion, and sinless lifestyle, and over all that is ungodly in the world.
11. Desire to be free of sin that dwells within us (Romans 7:17-20), and long to stand in your resurrected immortal body completely free of sin, before the Saviour, you in faith love.
12. Look with excitement and joy to the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, and being gathered with all the faithful to be with Him.

If you can say 'yes' to all of these, then, based upon a multitude of Scriptures, and the fact those in the world (i.e., not in Christ), do not give any thought to any of the twelve things listed above, I am confident of the following four things:

1. You are in Christ.
2. You are free of condemnation.

3. You are set free from the law of sin and death
4. The Saviour we all love will accept you on the glorious day of resurrection.

Those who embrace these twelve statements and live accordingly, but still find it difficult to confess they are saved, and doubt whether the Lord they love, and who loves them, will accept them at the resurrection, implies a lack of faith for the following two reasons:

1. It shows they do not believe in the finished work of Christ on the cross of Calvary.
2. It implies they are 95% saved, but must do something more to be fully saved, which infers salvation by works, or at least some level of works to fill the gap, that Jesus' death on the cross, lacked to fulfil. Certainly, Good works are profitable, but they do not save us, but outwardly evidence our inward faith, and it is by them we will be rewarded, or suffer loss, but whether a believer is rewarded or suffers loss, both will be saved as the following verses show:
 - **1 Corinthians 3:11-15:** For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴ If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

In contrast to the following words of David:

- Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. (Psalm 23:4–6).

Those who doubt if the Lord they love will accept them at the resurrection, can have no confidence or comfort when facing death, and breathing their last breath, for they cannot know if the Lord will accept or reject them.

Examine yourselves: the apostle Paul calls all who confess to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ to examine themselves to see if they are in the faith?

- **2 Corinthians 13:5:** Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

Some might ask the question, "what are we to examine?" To this question, I would suggest, 'they examine if they can say "yes" to the above twelve questions.' All who can confidently say, "yes" to these twelve questions, can, I believe confidently say, "they are in the faith and saved." For me personally, it would be enormously humbling to receive a reward, for I see so many more that pay a far higher price to follow Christ than I do. It will be enough for me to be accepted, for I like Paul, cannot imagine anything better than seeing my Saviour and King the Lord Jesus Christ, and being gathered up to be with Him, like a teenager experiencing their first love, it will be enough, to be with Him.

FURTHER SCRIPTURES THAT SPEAK OF SALVATION

- **John 5:24:** Jesus said: Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears my word and believes in Him who sent me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgement but has passed from death into life."

- **Romans 5:17:** For if, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.
- **Romans 8:38 -39:** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- **Romans 10:1-3:** Brothers, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them (the Jews) is that they may be saved. ² For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³ For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness.
- **Romans 11:5-6:** So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. ⁶ But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.
- **Romans 20:23:** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.
- **1 Corinthians 3:11–15:** For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ each one’s work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. ¹⁴ If the work that anyone has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If anyone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.
- **Galatians 2:16:** yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.
- **Galatians 3:26:** for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.
- **Galatians 5:4: (ESV)** You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace. The King James Bible, says: Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.
- **Ephesians 1:6:** To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.
- **Ephesians 1:13:** In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise”
- **Ephesians 2:5:** even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.
- **Ephesians 2:8-9:** For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
- **Hebrews 7:25:** Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.
- **1John 5:13:** I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.
- **Acts 16:29-33:** And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹ And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family.

Conclusion: these verses and the many others like them, shine a brilliant spotlight upon the truth of the following verse:

- **John 1:16:** For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

We have a marvellous hope, and should live our lives, in full expectation of receiving it, for this is the faith God wants us to live with.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

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