**THE PROOF OF SALVATION**

**1 John 5:10-13**

**INTRODUCTION**

There are any number of things one may believe about his / her circumstances. Matters that one is so confident of that they cannot see it any other way. Have you ever known times that individuals had such great assurance that they were able to overcome what others thought were impossible heights to realize? Times that one was told – “you should just stop trying!”

A mindset that is sure of one’s salvation can aid when naysayers would suggest the task to be realized is insurmountable. Times that things get tough and giving up crosses the mind. Perhaps a period of discomfort that has lasted long enough that one has begun to believe the present dilemma to be an unending reality.

**BODY OF LESSON**

I. The Bible is proof (**1 John 5:10-13, John 5:39, Luke 16:27-31**)

 A. It’s more than a good conscience (**Acts 23:1**)

 B. It’s more than “feelings” (**Genesis 37:23-35, Genesis 45:25-28**)

 1. Sometimes what is believed to be proof isn’t proof but a feeling / belief.

 C. It’s more than “favor.” (**John 16:1-3** emphasis **v. 2**)

 D. It’s personal. (**Jerimiah 31:31-34**)

 [Think about our teaching our kids and how it must become personal!]

**SCRIPTURE**

**1 John 5:10-13 (KJV)**
10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.
11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.
**13**These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

**John 5:39 (KJV)**

39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

**Luke 16:27-31 (KJV) [The rich man’s concern for his brothers]**
27 Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:
28 For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.
29 Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.
30 And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.
31 And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

**Acts 23:1 (KJV)**
1 And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men *and* brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.

**Genesis 37:23-35 (KJV)**
23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Joseph out of his coat, *his* coat of *many* colours that *was* on him;
24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit *was* empty, *there was* no water in it.
25 And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry *it* down to Egypt.
26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit *is it* if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?
27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he *is* our brother *and* our flesh. And his brethren were content.
28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty *pieces* of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.
29 And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph *was* not in the pit; and he rent his clothes.
30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child *is* not; and I, whither shall I go?
**31**And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood;
**32**And they sent the coat of *many* colours, and they brought *it* to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it *be* thy son's coat or no.
**33**And he knew it, and said, *It is* my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.
34 And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.
35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.

**Genesis 45:25-28 (KJV)**
25 And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father,
26 And told him, saying, Joseph *is* yet alive, and he *is* governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.
27 And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived:
28 And Israel said, *It is* enough; Joseph my son *is* yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.

**John 16:1-3 (KJV)**
1 These things have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended.
2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.
3 And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.

**Jeremiah 31:31-34 (KJV)**
31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:
32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:
33 But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.
34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.