



1 John 5:13

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 4:16-19

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we see like him. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us.

The "golden" fear:

Love. Fear. Love. Fear. Love.

Why this, why now?

1. God wants you to possess full assurance - to enjoy its full support and comfort.
2. God wants to free us from insecurity - that in our secure standing we can stand secure.



Assurance authenticates God's salvation and grounds our security.

Two parts to understanding our assurance:

A Distinction & A Dynamic

Distinction:

Assurance authenticates God's salvation.

It does not confer it.

Dynamic:

Assurance grounds our security.

God is our security.

A photograph of a snow-capped mountain peak, likely Mount Everest, under a cloudy sky. The image is overlaid with a dark horizontal band containing the text 'SECURE STANDING' in a white serif font. The text is enclosed within a red rectangular border.

SECURE  
STANDING

## **1 John 5:13**

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

## 1 John 4:15-19

The "golden" fear:

beat this one, beat them all

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us **so that** we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are like him. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, **because** fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us.

# Why this, why now?

**1. God wants you to possess full assurance - to enjoy it's full support and comfort.**

**2. God wants to free us from insecurity - that in our secure standing we can stand secure.**

Proverbs 11:2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Proverbs 16:12 Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honor.



Proverbs 28:1 The widow's fee though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.



Proverbs 11:2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

Proverbs 18:12 Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honor.



Proverbs 28:1  
The wicked flee though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.

**Assurance  
authenticates God's salvation  
and  
grounds our security.**

**Two parts to understanding our assurance:**

A Distinction & A Dynamic

# Distinction:

# Assurance authenticates God's salvation.

# It does not confer it.

Assurance is authentication - not salvation.

#### "Already In" Assumption.

1. John 2:24 - He that believeth on the Son of man, shall not come into condemnation, but he that believeth not on the Son of man, shall be condemned. (John 2:24)  
2. John 3:18 - Who believeth on the Son of man, shall not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:18)  
3. John 5:24 - Whosoever heareth the voice of the Son of man, and believeth on him, shall not come into condemnation, but shall have everlasting life. (John 5:24)  
4. John 6:40 - For the Father's will is that whosoever believeth on the Son of man, shall have everlasting life. (John 6:40)  
5. John 6:54 - Whosoever eateth of the bread of life, shall never hunger, and whosoever drinketh of the water of life, shall never thirst. (John 6:54)  
6. John 6:68 - Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. (John 6:68)  
7. John 8:24 - Therefore saith he unto them, Ye shall die in your sins, if ye believe not that I am he which I say. (John 8:24)  
8. John 8:51 - Whosoever keepeth my sayings, shall not see death, but shall have everlasting life. (John 8:51)  
9. John 10:28 - I give them life, and they shall never perish, neither shall any man snatch them out of my hand. (John 10:28)  
10. John 10:38 - Therefore shall ye know that I am in the Father, and the Father in me, and that I send the Spirit of my Father, who is in me, and he shall testify of me. (John 10:38)  
11. John 11:26 - Whosoever believeth on the Son of man, shall have everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation. (John 11:26)  
12. John 12:48 - Whosoever believeth on me, shall not come into condemnation, but whosoever believeth not on me, shall be condemned. (John 12:48)  
13. John 13:36 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus saith unto him, Whither I go, I know not; but I know that I shall be with thee a little while longer. (John 13:36)  
14. John 13:37 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, why sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Whither I go, thou knowest not. (John 13:37)  
15. John 13:38 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, What I say unto thee, thou shalt not hear. (John 13:38)  
16. John 13:39 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:39)  
17. John 13:40 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:40)  
18. John 13:41 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:41)  
19. John 13:42 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:42)  
20. John 13:43 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:43)  
21. John 13:44 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:44)  
22. John 13:45 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:45)  
23. John 13:46 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:46)  
24. John 13:47 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:47)  
25. John 13:48 - Peter saith unto him, Lord, wherefore sayest thou that I shall be with thee a little while longer, and I know not whither thou goest? Jesus answered and said unto him, Because thou hast desired it, thy will be done. (John 13:48)

#### Clear Distinctions

##### Assurance

- Will Test
- Authentication
- Word Spoken (heard)
- Testimony (say, feel, do)
- Freedom (Conviction)

##### Salvation

- Christ's Atonement
- Grace and Faith
- Merit (Grace) (earned) in Christ
- Free Will - (choice and free)
- God's Sovereignty and Omnipotence



Assurance is authentication - not salvation.

# "Already In" Assumption.

- **1 John 1:8** "we lie, and the truth is not in us"
- **2:3** "we know that we have come to know him if we obey his commandments"
- **2:5b** "...This is how we know we are in him: whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did."
- **2:12-14** - All references are in the past tense.
- **1 John 2:18-19** Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

# Clear Distinctions

## Assurance

- MRI Test
- Authentication
- Mental State (belief)
- From works - say, feel, do
- Problem: Deception

## Salvation

- Chemo/Treatment
- State and standing
- Meta State (being) in Christ
- From faith - confess and trust
- Problem: Depravity and Damnation

# Dynamic: Assurance grounds our security. God is our security.

Assurance authenticates our salvation  
in order to ground our security.

**Reality based** assurance is not  
the same as **works based**.

The distinction?

Reality based assurance takes the  
question from performance to truth.

**Talons of Insecurity:**

**Deceivers:**  
*Those who tell us the wrong authentication criteria or rule out  
that there is an authentication protocol.*

**Prideful Self-Deception (presumption):**  
*Avoidance or dishonest use of authentication.*

**Agitated Self-Deception (fear, distress, despair, gloom):**  
*Persistent turmoil over the question, "Is my faith real?"*

1 John 3:18-20:

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with  
actions and in truth. This love is true, so that we know that we  
belong to the truth, and therefore we can reassure our hearts in the  
presence of our loved ones. For those  
who do not love their brothers, they are liars. Their  
hearts are not with God, and therefore they will not be able to  
believe and will continue to sin, and will be deceived  
by those who command to do what pleases them.

**To the Truth: 3 PLAIN Criteria**

Do I confess Jesus and trust him for present salvation today?

Is there evidence of regeneration and the Holy Spirit me?

Is there a long-term pattern of growth and me?

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***Reality based*** assurance is not the same as ***works based***.

**The distinction?**

Reality based assurance takes the question from performance to truth.



# Talons of Insecurity:

## **Deceivers:**

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## **Agitated Self-Deception (fear, distress, despair, gloom):**

*Persistent turmoil over the question, "Is my faith real?"*

**1 John 3:18-22:**

Dear children, let us not love with  
actions and in truth. This then is

*th real?"*

### **1 John 3:18-22:**

Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.

# To the Truth: 3 PLAIN Criteria

Do I confess Jesus and trust him for present salvation today?

Is there evidence of regeneration and the Holy Spirit me?

Is there a long-term pattern of growth and me?



SECURE  
STANDING