**Series on Assurance of Faith (#2)**

**Scripture Readings:** Jeremiah 31:1-9 & Colossians 2:1-12

**Singing**: 247:1, 2, 6 – 133:1-3 – 92:1, 8 – 417:1, 3

Intro: The question of *life or death* of a child are of utmost importance.

A. If so in daily life, how is that in *spiritual life*?

 1. Uncertainty is the *common entry experience* in the spiritual journey

 2. But *abiding* uncertainty is un-endurable and un-helpful to health and

 function of spiritual life

B. So in the great things concerning *eternity*, nothing but *certainty* *or*

 *assurance* will do!

 1. That’s doesn’t mean *that assurance* is **indispensable** to salvation!

 a. to teach this is *Biblical error*

 b. to teach this is also *pastorally cruel*

 2. None is saved by being assured of being saved but by believing the

 Gospel of God (John 5:24)

C. Assurance remains ***flower***of the Holy Spirit’s plant called ‘saving faith’

**How to be Assured of your salvation? (2)**

I. It is fruit of the Holy Spirit’s ministry

II. It is based on the Holy Spirit’s testimony through the Word

**I. The assurance of your salvation is *sweet work of the Holy Spirit***

A. Consider some Scriptures declaring this

 1. Romans 8:14-16: *note the emphasis of the Holy Spirit’s leading*

 2. Romans 15:13: *joy and peace are* ***fruits*** *of believing thru power Spirit*

 3. 1 Cor. 12:3: *if confession Jesus is through operation of Holy Spirit,*

 *then being assured of it must also be*

B. Does New Testament present it as *the common way of Holy Spirit* to

 keep adopted sons and daughters in bondage of spirit?

 1. Compare Luke 11:13; John 16:13-14

C. If many adopted sons and daughters remain in the ‘dark’ regarding their

 salvation, what would be the reason?

 1. consider Jeremiah 31:9a: *They shall come with weeping, and with*

 *supplications will I lead them.*

 2. consider Zephaniah 3:13: *I will also leave in the midst of thee an*

 *afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD*

 3. consider Deut. 28:65-67 *… and thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life.*

 4. consider the statement *‘the days of darkness shall outnumber the*

 5. consider Isaiah 50:10 *Who is among you that feareth the LORD, that*

 *obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light?*

D. What may/must we conclude from these Scriptures?

 1. That if the people of God walk in darkness, without assurance of

 faith, we must seek the *cause in ourselves and not in God’s Spirit*

 2. That if the people of God live without assurance of faith, it could also

be that we are seeking this assurance in way that is *not the Holy Spirit’s common way to assure one of his or her salvation*