

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Blessed Assurance

SERMON REFERENCE: 2 Peter 1:12-21

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1618

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) In today's message, we are going to see that we can have a more sure word of prophecy, where we can say that we know that we know that we have a right relationship with God.
 - i) Instead of a "hope-so" salvation, we can have a "know-so" salvation.
 - ii) Instead of being a doubting Christian, we can be a shouting Christian.
 - (1) We can praise God because we know that we are saved.
- b) There is so much inauthenticity around today.
 - i) There is so much confusion and many counterfeits.
 - (1) Many of us do not really know where we ought to stand.
- c) We should not spend too much time studying the false, but we should make ourselves acquainted with that which is real.
 - i) There is a lot we may not know, and perhaps we do not have to know.
 - ii) There are some things that we very much must know.
 - (1) We must know the truth.
- d) 2 Peter 1:12-21
 - i) When Peter used the word "tabernacle" in verses 13-14, he was speaking about his own body.
 - ii) In verse 15, the words "my decease" means "my exodus."
 - (1) He did not mean "my death."
- e) In this day of counterfeit Christianity, confusion, and new age mysticism, the child of God can say, "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine."
- f) The Apostle Peter shares three things about the Word of God, which we will look at in our Scripture today.

2) THE WORD OF GOD SURVIVES HUMAN TEACHERS (2 PETER 1:12-15)

- a) The Apostle Peter was their teacher, but he knew that he was going to die.
 - i) 2 Peter 1:14
 - (1) Jesus Christ had told Peter that when he was old, he was going to die.
 - (a) John 21:18
 - ii) The Holy Spirit had witnessed to him that he had very little time left.
- b) Peter wanted them to remember what he had taught them.
 - i) Remembrance is very important.
 - ii) 2 Peter 1:12
 - (1) "To put you always in remembrance."
 - iii) 2 Peter 1:13
 - (1) "Putting you in remembrance."
 - iv) 2 Peter 1:15
 - (1) "All these things always in remembrance."
- c) We all have trouble remembering things.
 - i) Memory is a difficult matter.
- d) Peter did not leave them at the mercy of their memory.
 - i) Peter taught them, and he taught them as an apostle should teach them.

- (1) Everything that he taught them was right and truth because he was one of the apostles of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
 - ii) The Lord Jesus had told Peter that he was going to Heaven to meet Him.
 - (1) There were some things that Peter wanted the people to remember.
 - (a) That is why he wrote this epistle.
 - e) The Word of God survives human teachers; the Word of God lives on.
 - i) Paul is gone.
 - ii) James is gone.
 - iii) Luke is gone.
 - iv) Peter is gone.
 - f) We are not at the mercy of memory.
 - i) Memory is defective and selective.
 - (1) It is defective.
 - (a) We never remember things just like we think they were.
 - (b) Through the years, memory gets more and more defective.
 - (2) It is selective.
 - (a) We remember what we want to remember.
 - g) God's Word is here.
 - i) God has given us His Word.
 - ii) We are not just simply people who live by oral tradition.
 - (1) We are not people who just have a memory of what our Lord has said.
 - iii) God has written His Word down.
 - (1) We can hold it in our hands.
 - (a) The weakest ink is better than the best memory.
 - (2) Therefore, someone can preach with the authority of an apostle if he preaches what the apostles preached in the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - (a) Because he has the words of the apostles.
 - h) It is the Word of God that abides forever.
 - i) 1 Peter 1:23-25
 - ii) Men die, but God's Word lives on.
 - (1) It survives forever.
 - iii) Books come and books go, but the Word of the Lord endures forever.
 - (1) The Bible cannot be destroyed.
- 3) THE WORD OF GOD SURMOUNTS HUMAN TESTIMONIES (2 PETER 1:16-17, 19)
 - a) Peter gave his testimony.
 - i) 2 Peter 1:16
 - (1) Peter talked about the day that he, James, and John went up on the Mount of Transfiguration.
 - (2) They saw the Lord Jesus Christ glorified.
 - (a) Mark 9:2-13
 - (b) His raiment was white as snow.
 - (c) His face shone like the noonday sun.
 - (d) Moses and Elijah were there with Him.

- (i) They talked about His death and Him going to Heaven.
 - (e) Peter wanted to build three tabernacles:
 - (i) One for Jesus.
 - (ii) One for Moses.
 - (iii) One for Elijah.
 - ii) There came a voice from Heaven, and Peter heard it.
 - (1) 2 Peter 1:17
 - (2) Peter, James, and John were eyewitnesses.
 - (a) They saw it with their eyes.
 - (b) They heard it with their ears.
 - (c) They felt it in their hearts.
- b) 2 Peter 1:19
 - i) The Bible is more sure than what we see with our eyes, what we hear with our ears, and what we feel in our hearts.
 - ii) Peter was not saying that the things he saw did not happen.
 - (1) He was simply saying that the Word of God that survives human teachers is the Word of God that also surmounts human testimonies.
 - (a) We have a more sure word of prophecy, more sure than even eyewitness accounts.
 - (i) It is the Word of God.
 - iii) “A more sure word of prophecy” is not talking about prophecy that foretells the future.
 - (1) It is talking about the revealed body of God’s truth: the Bible.
 - c) Many of us think that if we could have only been there when Jesus was on Earth, or if we could have only been on the Mount of Transfiguration.
 - i) But we have something better.
 - (1) It is a more sure word of prophecy.
 - (2) The Word of God survives human teachers and surmounts human testimonies.
 - (a) Psalm 19:7
 - (b) Psalm 93:5
 - d) If someone has a mountain top transfiguration experience, a vision, or a revelation, then he needs to make certain that everything he thinks he sees, hears, knows, or feels is:
 - i) Confirmed in the Word of God.
 - ii) Conformed to the Word of God.
 - iii) Controlled by the Word of God.
 - (1) That is the standard.
 - e) The devil is able to perform miracles.
 - i) He is able to make fire come down out of Heaven to deceive those who dwell on the face of the Earth.
 - ii) The Antichrist is going to come with all deceivableness of unrighteousness.
 - f) We need to make certain that we know what the Word of God says.

- i) Many pilots have lost their lives when they refused to look at the instruments, read the instruments, and obey the instruments.
 - (1) They went by their own feelings and intuitions.
 - ii) It is alright to have feelings, but when it comes to Spiritual things, God has given us His Word.
 - (1) It is more sure than human testimony.

- 4) THE WORD OF GOD SURPASSES HUMAN THOUGHT (2 PETER 1:19-21)
 - a) Pay attention to the Bible.
 - b) The Bible is not an ordinary book.
 - i) The Bible surpasses human thoughts.
 - (1) Psalm 92:5
 - c) The inspiration of the Word of God.
 - i) How we got the Bible:
 - (1) 2 Peter 1:20
 - (a) Peter is explaining this “more sure word” that we have.
 - (b) The word “private” here is used 114 times in the New Testament.
 - (i) It literally means “of its own.”
 - 1. No Scripture is of its own interpretation.
 - (c) In this verse, the word “interpretation” means “to untie or unfold.”
 - (i) No Scripture is of its own unfolding or of its own development.
 - 1. The men who wrote the Bible were not drawing out of their own wells.
 - a. They were not giving their own thoughts or philosophies.
 - 2. This has nothing to do with how to understand the Bible.
 - a. Peter was talking about the origination of the Scripture.
 - (2) Scripture did not come like other books come.
 - (a) It did not come of its own.
 - (b) It is not something that some man sat down and thought out, no matter how brilliant he was.
 - (3) The Bible is different from all other books.
 - (4) 2 Peter 1:21
 - (a) “Moved by the Holy Ghost” is a metaphor from the sea.
 - (b) The word “moved” in this verse is a word that illustrates a ship being driven by the winds when its sails are up.
 - (i) Peter was a man of the sea.
 - 1. He understood and used this metaphor.
 - (ii) The writers of the Scriptures had their spiritual sails up.
 - 1. The wind that was in their sails was the Holy Spirit of God moving them along as they wrote what they wrote.
 - a. That is the inspiration of the Word of God.
- (5) These thoughts are not mere thoughts of men.
 - (a) It is not merely a human book.
 - (i) It is a divine book.

- ii) How deep the Word of God is.
 - (1) We can never touch the bottom of God's Word.
 - (2) Psalm 92:5
 - (3) Romans 11:33
- iii) The Word of God surpasses human thoughts.
 - (1) Isaiah 55:8
 - (2) This is the reason why we can enjoy studying the Bible.
 - (3) A little child can study the Word of God and be blessed.
 - (4) Someone who has studied the Bible for years has not really even started to study it.
 - (5) Charles Haddon Spurgeon said that no one ever out-grows Scripture.
- iv) The Bible widens and deepens with our years.
 - (1) It is inexhaustible.
 - (2) The Word is like its Author.
 - (a) It is infinite, immeasurable, and without end.
- v) You read other books, but this book will read you.
- d) The illumination of the Word of God.
 - i) 2 Peter 1:19
 - (1) This Word gives light in darkness.
 - (2) In this verse, the word "dark" has the idea, not of dark like when you turn out the lights, but of "being murky and dirty" or "a place of squalor and filth."
 - (a) This light shines into that dirty place.
 - (i) That dirty place is our hearts.
 - (3) Jesus Christ is the "the Day Star."
 - (a) He is the Son of Righteousness.
 - (b) The Lord Jesus is going to shine in our hearts through the more sure word of prophecy.
 - (4) Peter was talking about the sunrise of the soul.
 - (a) By the Word of God, the Holy Spirit pulls back the curtain of night and pins it with the star of hope and floods our heart with the sunlight of the love of God.
 - (i) And we can say, "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine."

5) CONCLUSION

- a) The Word of God survives human teachers.
- b) The Word of God surmounts human testimony.
- c) The Word of God surpasses human thought.
- d) It is the basis of our belief and the bedrock of our blessed assurance.
- e) Do you know the Author of this book?
- f) Do you have that blessed assurance?
- g) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.

- h) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16