

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Blessed Assurance October 5, 2021 Suzi Armstrong

The Bible says that we overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony. This is talking about identity and trust. Who do you say that you are? And who do you belong to? Who do you trust?

There is an old classic hymn that says, "Blessed assurance Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long." This song is a testimony and declaration of identity and trust. It is a song that reiterates the truth in the Bible. It strengthens your stance in Christ. It positions you for boldness – standing for righteousness. It fills your mouth with the testimony of Christ in you the hope of glory. You are a new creation in Christ the old is gone and the new has come. You discern between good and evil and speak life. You are not afraid. Jesus is your defender and the blood of Jesus covers you. You walk in power and authority in the name of Jesus. You trample on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you. This is blessed assurance!!

Singing these words impacts your soul because you are singing words of truth, words that right out of scripture. It is important right now to build yourself up with scripture. Scripture that strengthens your faith makes you resilient, increases confidence and anchors your hope firmly in Christ.

Being assured – knowing that you know – is a blessing. Assurance means confidence or certainty that something is true and real. It is a confident feeling or attitude of being certain about something. Assurance removes doubt and confusion and it torpedoes fear. Assurance releases strength and courage.

Assurance in the midst of a world filled with insecurity and conflicting realities is found in God and is one of the hallmarks of authentic Christian life. Such assurance is not based on human reasoning or human resources, abilities, arguments or ingenuity; but it is based upon confidence that God is who He says He is and He keeps His promises. That He indeed is ALL POWERFUL. Blessed assurance comes out of authentic relationship with God. Blessed assurance builds endurance and perseverance in our lives. Ephesians 1.13 says that when we believed we were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit GUARANTEEING our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession – to the praise of His glory. We can REST ASSURED that we are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb. The Holy Spirit is God's pledge providing us with assurance of eternal life in Christ. Blessed assurance.

Hebrews 10.22-23 NIV

²² **let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance** that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ **Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.**

1 Peter 1.3-5 NIV

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy **he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.** This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who **through faith are shielded by God's power** until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

2 Timothy 1.12b KJV

...I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

Isaiah 32.17 NIV

¹⁷ The fruit of that righteousness will be peace; its effect will be quietness and confidence forever.

Daniel 3.16-18 NIV

¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, "King Nebuchadnezzar, **we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter.** ¹⁷ If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, **the God we serve is able to deliver us** from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. ¹⁸ But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

2 Corinthians 9.8 NIV

⁸ **And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.**

Ephesians 3.20 NIV

²⁰ **Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,** according to his power that is at work within us,

Jude 1.24 NIV

²⁴ **To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—**

We stand assured that You are God alone. We have set our hope and trust in You alone.

And to You we pray:

We magnify the name of Jesus and glorify His name. We lift the name of Jesus as a banner over Detroit and the nation. We rest assured that the King of Glory who is mighty in battle is over our land and the people. We say, "Arise, Lord! Lift up Your hand, O God. Do not forget the helpless. Why does the wicked man revile God? Why does he say to himself 'He won't call me to account'? But You O God, do see trouble and grief, You consider it to take it in hand. The victim commits himself to You, You are the helper of the fatherless. Break the arm of the wicked and evil man; call him to account for his wickedness that would not be found out. The Lord is King forever and ever!" (Psalm 10.12-16)

Our assurance is in Your faithfulness and that Your promises are true. The arm of the Lord is not too short to save. For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver and the Lord is our King. It is He who will save us. Let the heavens rain down righteousness; let the clouds shower it down. Let the earth open wide, let salvation spring up, let righteousness grow with it.

"Blessed assurance Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long."