

# The Security of the Believer in Christ

It is not God's purpose that true believers should live their lives unsure of their eternal destiny. It is not God's desire that His children should feel that at any given moment they may be rejected and eternally lost. It is also not God's intended purpose to give you false hope of heaven to those whose hearts are not right with God, have never been changed, who have never really been born again, should feel a security of salvation simply because they "parroted" a prayer of repentance or repeated the words, "I receive Jesus as my Savior."

We remember from the book of Acts chapter eight a certain so called believer who responded to the preaching of the Apostles, who was baptized and professed Christ Jesus as his Savior. Simon, the magician, was his name. Before Christ he was a sorcerer who bewitched the people with his black arts showing himself to be some great power. Once Simon was in the church, fellowshipping with the believers, taking communion, accompanying the teachings of the Apostles and of Philip, the evangelist, he looked like a believer. Yet, with all this his heart was still not changed. We discover when Peter and John arrive that he had never been saved at all. He had an outward conformity to the Gospel without an inward change. He had a head-knowledge without a heart-knowledge. He "accepted" Christ as his Savior, but he did not experience "receiving" Jesus into his heart as Savior and Lord. Jesus to him was a means to an end. For him it was another means to make money. For others it is just the means to get heaven and escape hell, but without a personal relationship to Jesus Christ. He did the deeds, walked the walk, and even talked the talk, without ever being born again. His behavior conformed to Christian standards without his heart ever receiving him, or bowing before him.

This should not surprise us. It has always been so. In every age, in every culture, and in every church community, there are "true believers," those who are really saved, who repent of their sins, who really and truly invite Jesus Christ into their hearts and lives, and there are those "false believers" who go through the motions, who pray the prayer, who say the words, but whose heart has never been changed. They get religion, agree with the creeds, follow the teaching, conform to the outward standards of behavior and morality, but, who like Simon the magician, whose heart is not right with God, and who is still full of bitterness and captive to sin. (Acts 8:21-23)

But someone will say, "Who then can be sure of their salvation?" or "How can we know if someone among us is really saved." The answer is not easy. The wheat and the weeds grow together, Jesus said, and look exactly alike. We cannot tell the difference from the outside, but God can. Even the best Apostles were fooled for a while with the Simons, the Ananiases and Saphiras among them. The answer is YOU cannot know with total certainty eternal state of another man's heart. Only God knows that.

2 Timothy 2:19 "Nevertheless the foundation of God stands sure, having this seal, [The Lord knows](#) them that are his. And, Let every one that names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."