Can You Be Sure of Eternal Life?

You can't be sure of many things.

You can't be sure of the weather; it may change—quickly. You can't be sure of your strength; your body may fail you before you know it. You can't be sure of your friends; they may disown and forsake you. You can't be sure of the hour of your death.

You can be sure of some things.

Death Is Certain ...

You can be sure that you will not live on earth forever. The time will arrive when you will die and be buried. You can be sure also that you will be summoned to appear before the judgment seat of a holy and just God.

The Bible says:

"We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil."

 $2\ {\rm Corinthians}\ 5{:}10$

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

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"It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment." Hebrews 9:27

This is God's solemn truth. You ought to think soberly and seriously about your soul's salvation and about eternity. Ask yourself, "Can I be sure I am going to heaven?"

But Christ Offers Eternal Life

The verses above do not end with death. St. Paul states:

"For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God."

2 Corinthians 5:21

"[We] are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

Romans 3:24

The writer of Hebrews says:

"So Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him."

Hebrews 9:28

God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for your sins. Jesus rose again from the dead on the third day to secure everlasting life for you.

The Sacraments Provide Forgiveness of Sin

As a believer in Christ, you also have the security of knowing that your faith is sealed by the Sacraments of Christ.

In the Sacrament of Holy Baptism God washes away your sins and seals you for eternal salvation.

"Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." Mark 16:16

"He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior."

Titus 3:5–6

You also can be certain of the forgiveness of sins in the Sacrament of the Altar. Here in the bread and wine, the body and blood of Jesus Christ are truly present.

"As they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body.' And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, 'Drink of it, all of you, for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.'"

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Matthew 26:26–28

God Assures You of Salvation

You have the positive assurance of a loving God and Savior.

"This is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

John 6:40

"God our Savior . . . desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

1 Timothy 2:3–4

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life." John 10:27–28

Do You Believe? You Are Saved!

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son, as your only Lord and Savior? Do you believe that He died to save you from sin, death, and hell? Yes? Then you are saved and on the road to heaven. "Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life." 1 John 5:12–13

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die."

John 11:25–26

As a believer, you await a glorious resurrection from the dead on that great Last Day to live forever with your Lord and Redeemer.

These Scriptures assure you that there is full and complete salvation by grace through faith in Christ Jesus for all who repent of their sins and place their trust and confidence in Him and His blood-bought atonement.

We welcome you to come to our church, where the Word of God is taught in truth and purity, and where the Sacraments are administered according to Christ's command.

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