**Mike Hipes – Facebook Lesson, July 10, 2020**

Good Afternoon!

Are you married? Have you been married for a number of years? Imagine standing with your wife after services at church and a visitor asks you if the woman next to you is your wife. Would you say, I think so, maybe? I believe we could all agree on what kind of reaction that would produce from your lovely lady! Yet, many of the times when I ask Christians if they are certain about their saved relationship with Christ and assurance of going to heaven, they answer, I think so, I hope so, or maybe! Listen to these few scriptures that should give us confidence about our salvation from the writings of I John.

• “But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.” I John 1:7

• “I write you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of His name.” I John 2:12

• “How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!” I John 3:1

• “The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.” I John 4:4

• “We will have confidence in the day of judgment.” I John 4:17

• “God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.” I John 5:11

• “I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.” I John 5:13

The bible tells us that we are more than conquerors! Romans 8:37 “we are more than conquerors through Him who loves us.” What exactly does this mean? In a football game if you win by 3 points or 30 points you still win either way. Right? This passage does not emphasize so much the margin of victory but the assurance of victory! We are not fighting for victory but from victory! The point is that we have already won! Now we need to just start celebrating! As certain as two people can know that they are married, is as certain that we can be of our relationship with Christ!

I observed one time two guys betting on a football game that they were watching. The one man asked the other if he wanted to bet on the outcome. The other man agreed. As the game went on it looked as if the outcome was clear. However, the man who initiated the bet had the team that was falling behind. Regardless of this, he offered to up the stakes of the wager. The other man could hardly believe that he would take such a chance with so little time left in the game and being so far behind in the score. Chuckling, he took the bet! Suddenly in an amazing turn of events, the losing team turned the game around and won the game! The man who lost the bet said to the other, that was a risky move but it paid off! The other man said, actually, it was easy, you see this game has already been played! It was a re-run of a game that was played last week! The victory was already won! It was an absolute certainty! Folks the victory we have in Jesus has already been won at the cross! Let’s live our Christians lives not with a maybe, hope so or think so attitude but knowing that we have already won! Let the celebration begin! Amen?

Have a great weekend,

Mike