

CONFIDENCE OF ETERNAL LIFE

We have been studying the five Trustworthy Sayings found in the Pastoral Epistles.

1 Tim.1:12-17 (15)	God Saves the Worst Sinner	2 Tim.2:11-13 (13)	God Cannot Deny Himself
1 Tim.3:1-7 (1)	Honorable Office of Overseer	Titus 3-8 (8)	Confidence of Eternal Life
1 Tim.4:1-11 (9)	Virtue of Godliness		

A **Trustworthy Saying** is an important doctrine that was either being attacked or was not being followed correctly or was an infrastructure doctrine of the church.

Our lesson text consists of three Greek sentences (1 Tim.3:3), (1 Tim.3:4-7), and (1 Tim.3:8).

The first Greek sentence explains seven reasons why mankind needs grace salvation (1 Tim.3:3). Paul used the imperfect tense of *eimi* (absolute status quo of existence) to declare the continuous status of the unbeliever in Crete.

The second Greek sentence gives nine of the 50 things every Believer receives in grace salvation (1 Tim.3:4-7). [kindness of God, love of God, mercy, regeneration by Holy Spirit, renewal by Holy Spirit, justified, grace, heirs, **eternal life**]

The third Greek sentence establishes the Fifth Trustworthy Saying: “This is trustworthy statement (*pistos ho logos*); and concerning these things I want to speak confidently (*diabebainoomai* / *p.m.infin*) [Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) residing and functioning in the soul regarding eternal life] (1 Tim.3:8)

What’s the point? Baby Believers who aren’t doctrinally confident about grace salvation and eternal life are unable to grow into spiritual maturity. “Like newborn babes, long for the pure milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.” (1 Pet.2:2) This is because they are constantly worried or deceived about their salvation relationship status (**Heb.5:11-14**).

Therefore, baby Believers aren’t able to give serious thought towards divine production in CWL. “So that those who have believed God may be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.” (1 Tim.3:8b)

Here’s the point! The Fifth Trustworthy Saying was written to enable Believers to speak confidently about grace salvation and especially of their eternal life so that they can devote serious thought towards the priority of divine production in CWL.

This lesson will study four aspects of Confidence of Eternal Life.
“That being justified by His grace we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” (1 Tim.3:7).

1. It is interesting that Paul taught that all three members of the Godhead were involved in every Believer’s grace salvation and eternal life.

§ “But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared.” (1 Tim.3:4)

§ “Whom (The Holy Spirit) He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior.” (1 Tim.3:6)

This is important because eternal life is the life of the Godhead.

§ **God, the Father:** “And this is eternal life that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent.” (John 17:2-3)

§ **God, the Son:** “And the witness is this that god has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:11-13)

§ **God, the Holy Spirit:** “But the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life.” (Gal.6:8; 2 Cor.3:6; John 6:63)

2. All members of the human race are born minus eternal because of Adam’s original sin (AOS).

“Being darkened in their understanding, **excluded from the life of God**, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their hearts.” (Eph.4:18)

“And although you were **formerly alienated** and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds.” (Col.1:21)

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and **death through sin**, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.” (Rom.5:12)

3. Eternal life is not synonymous with human life or endless existence of the soul.

Human life has a beginning (physical birth) and an end (physical death) (Eccl.3:2; Heb.9:27).

All members of the human race are made in the image of God and have eternity set in their hearts or endless existence of soul (Eccl.3:11). Their decision to believe or reject the gospel of Jesus Christ determines where they will spend eternity (Luke 16:19-31).

Eternal life has a beginning (spiritual birth) but no end (John 3:3-8; Titus 3:5).

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.” (John 5:24, 29; Acts 24:15; Rom.2:7-8)

4. Eternal life is imputed to every person the moment he believes that Jesus Christ died for his sins, was buried and raised from the dead on the third day (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; John 3:15-16, 36).

“And I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.” (John 10:28-30)

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our lord.” (Rom.6:23)

“In hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago, but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of god our Savior.” (Titus 1:2-3; 3:7)