

Soteriology

Session 46



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Soteriology Overview

- I. Definition
- II. Election
- III. Atonement
- IV. Salvation words
- V. God's one condition of salvation
- VI. Results of salvation
- VII. Eternal security**
- VIII. Faulty views of salvation

Soteriology Overview

This Session

VII. Eternal Security

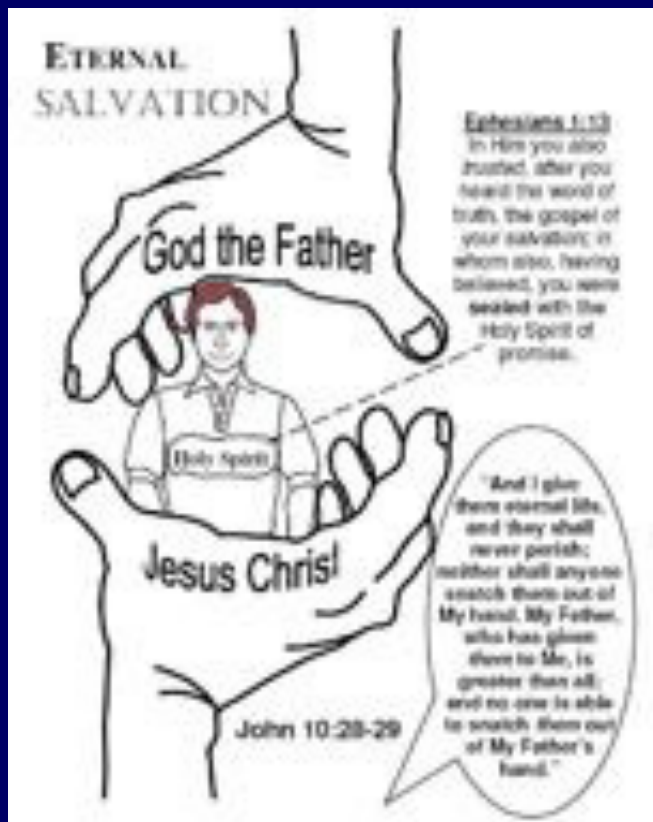




Definition of Eternal Security

“Eternal Security means that those who have been *genuinely saved* **by God’s grace through faith alone in Christ alone** shall never be in danger of God’s condemnation or loss of salvation but God’s grace and power keep them forever saved and secure.”

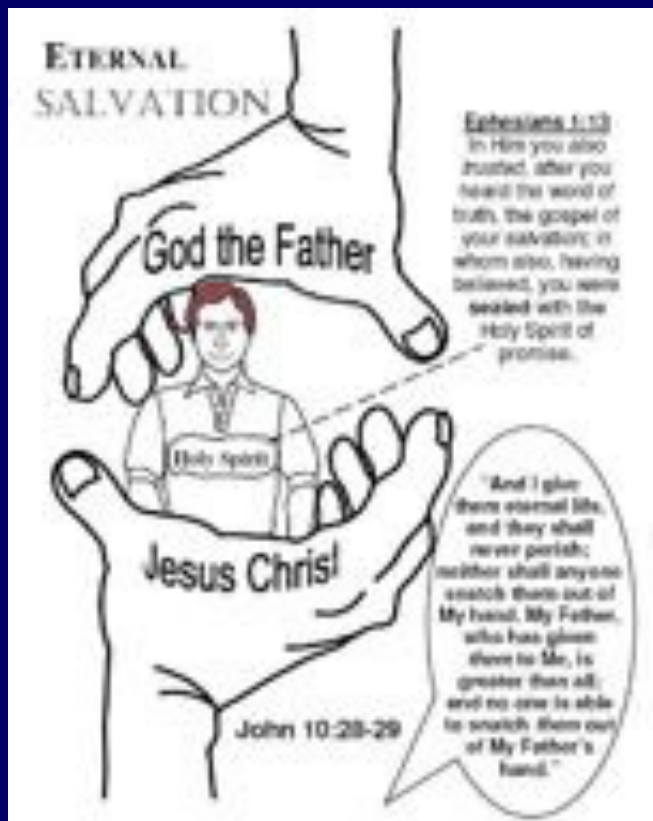
Eternal Security Outline



1. Eternal security arguments
2. Response to problem passages



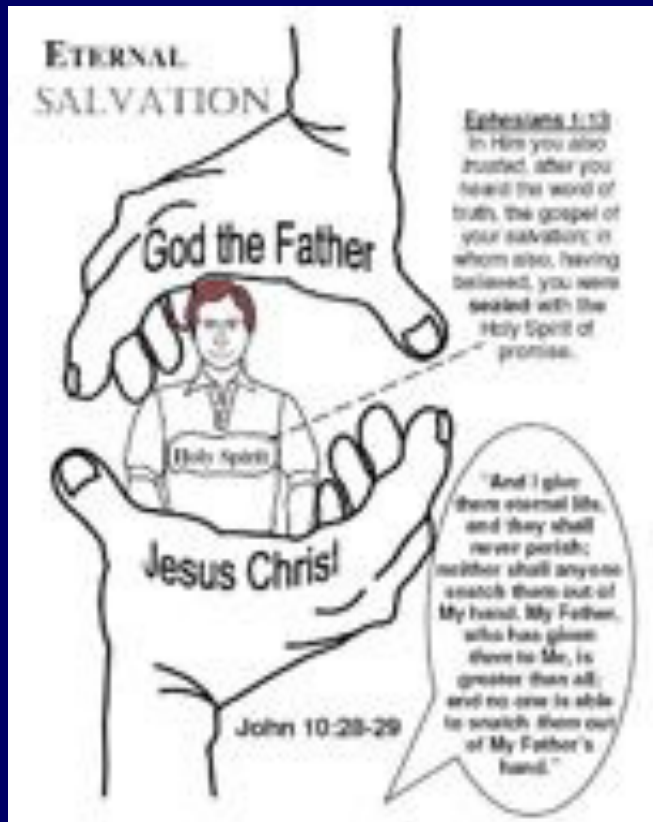
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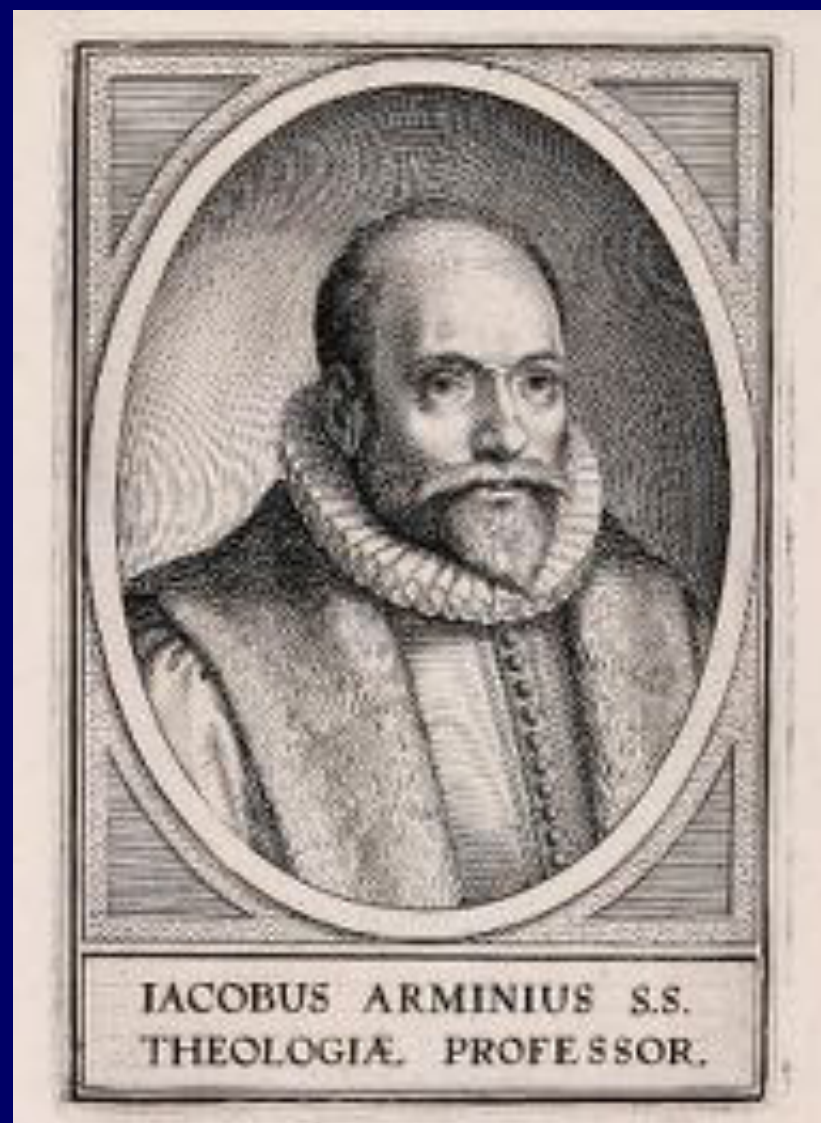


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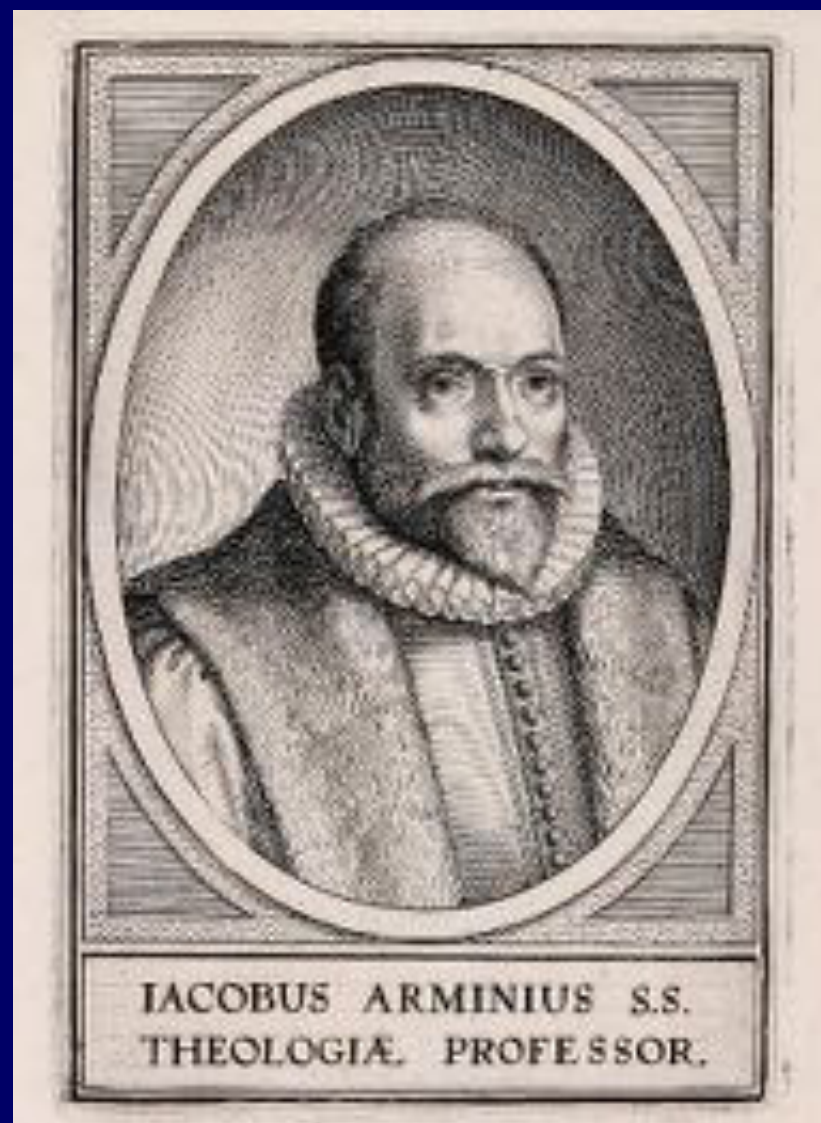
Response to Problem Passages

1. OT Passages
2. Passages from Matthew
3. Passages from John
4. Passages from Acts
5. Passages from Paul



Response to Problem Passages

6. Passages from James
7. Passages from Hebrews
8. Passages from 2 Peter
9. Passages from 1 John
10. Passages from Revelation
11. Miscellaneous argument



Passages from the General Letters & Revelation

a. Jas. 5:19-20

b. Heb. 3:6, 14

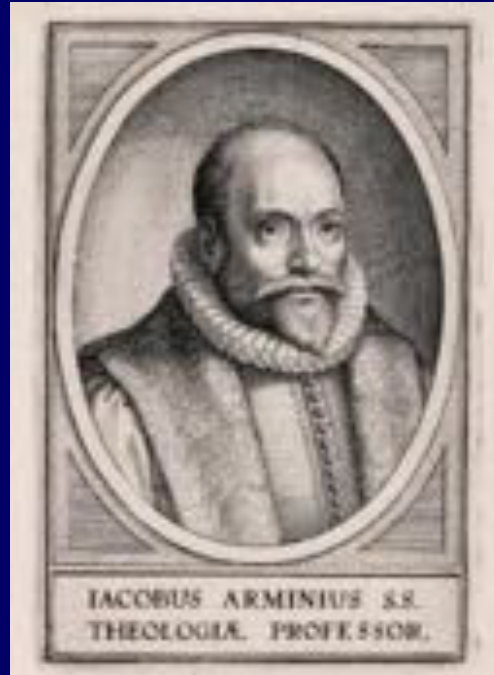
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f. Heb. 12:14

g. 2 Pet. 1:10-11



h. 2 Pet. 2:20-22

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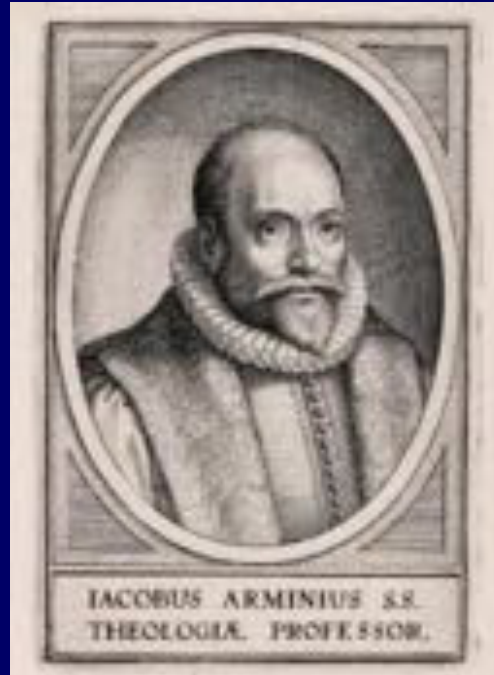
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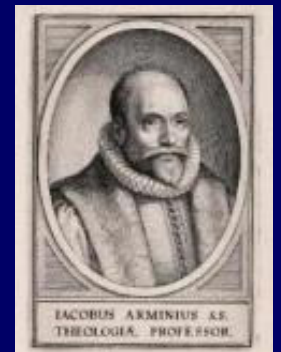
2 Peter 1:10-11

“Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; ¹¹ for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.” (NASB)



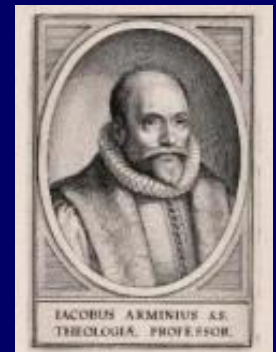
2 Peter 1:10-11

- Diligence in the Christian life does not make the believer more secure
- However, it can deepen inward assurance
- “Abundant entrance into the kingdom”-some believers will be saved but have little reward (1 Cor. 3:15; 2 John 8; Rev. 3:11)
- Our ultimate assurance comes from Christ’s promises (John 5:24; 6:47)



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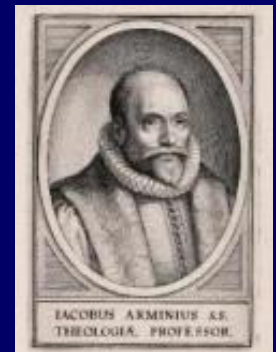
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John 5:24

“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.” (NASB)



John 6:47

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life.” (NASB)



Lewis Sperry Chafer



“There is a normal Christian experience. There are new and blessed emotions and desires. Old things do pass away; and behold all things do become new; but all such experiences are but secondary evidences, as to the fact of salvation, in that they grow out of that positive repose of faith which is the primary evidence.”

Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Salvation: A Clear Doctrinal Analysis*
(Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1977), 60. Italics added

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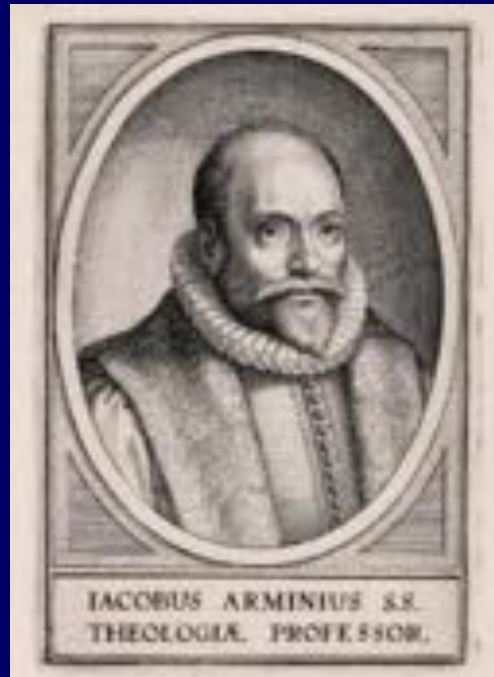
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2 Peter 2:20-22

“For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. ²¹ For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. ²² It has happened to them according to the true proverb, “A DOG RETURNS TO ITS OWN VOMIT,” and, “A sow, after washing, *returns* to wallowing in the mire.” (NASB)

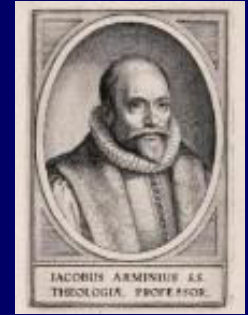


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2 Peter 2:20-22



- Not loss of salvation
- New believers becoming entangled again by the corruption of unbelieving false teachers
- This was to the detriment of the new believers' progressive sanctification (2 Pet. 3:17-18)
- Two groups
 - Unbelieving false teachers (2 Pet. 2:1, 9, 12, 14, 17, 19)
 - Believing victims (“escaped, again entangled”) of false teachers

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2 Peter 1:1-4

“Simon Peter, a bond-servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have received a faith of the same kind as ours, by the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ: ² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; ³ seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. ⁴ For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of *the* divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.”
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Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

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1 Peter 1:13-16

¹³“Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober *in spirit*, fix your hope completely on the grace [to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts *which were yours* in your ignorance, ¹⁵ but

like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; ¹⁶ because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.” (NASB)



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2 Peter 3:17-18

“You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.” (NASB)



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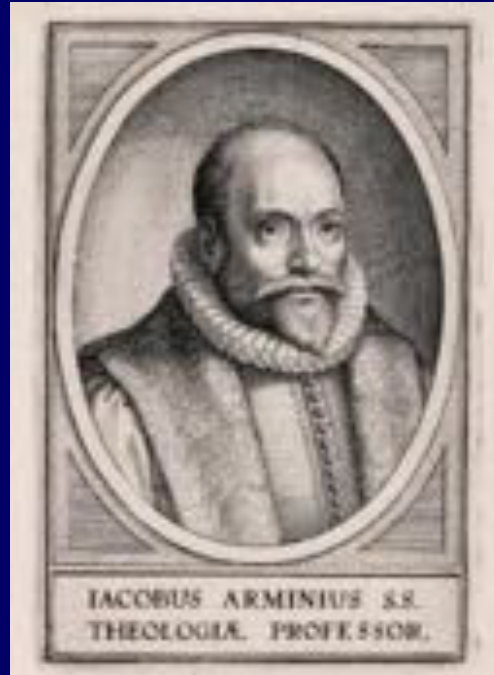
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“By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.” (NASB)



Believing Audience

- 1 John 1:4; 2 John 12 – Loss of joy
- 1 John 1:8 – “We”
- 1 John 2:1, 18, 28; 3:2, 7, 18; 5:21 – Children of God
- 1 John 2:12-14 – Eight descriptions
- 1 John 2:20, 27 – Have the Spirit’s anointing
- 1 John 2:21 – Know the truth
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1 John 2:12-14

“I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name’s sake. ¹³ I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father. ¹⁴ I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.” (NASB)



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- 1 John 3:1-2 – Those who will be like Him
- 1 John 3:2, 21; 4:1, 7, 11 – Beloved ones in the faith
- 1 John 3:13 – My brothers
- 1 John 4:4 – Born of God
- 1 John 4:13 – Possessing the Holy Spirit

7 Tests in 1 John

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EXPLORE THE BOOK

- i. 6: "If we say
that we have fellowship with Him, and walk
in darkness, we lie." False fellowship.
- i. 8: "If we say
that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves
and the truth is not in us." False sanctity.
- i. 10: "If we say
we have not sinned, we make Him a liar,
and His word is not in us." False righteousness.
- ii. 4: "He that saith
I know Him, and keepeth not His command-
ments, is a liar." False allegiance.
- ii. 6: "He that saith
he abideth in Him ought to walk even as
He walked." False behaviour.
- ii. 9: "He that saith
he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is
in the darkness." False spirituality.
- iv. 20: If a man say
I love God; and hateth his brother, he is a
liar." False love to God.

What is Being Tested?

- Test of life – saved, union, justification
- Test of fellowship – fellowship with God, communion, sanctification

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John F. MacArthur,

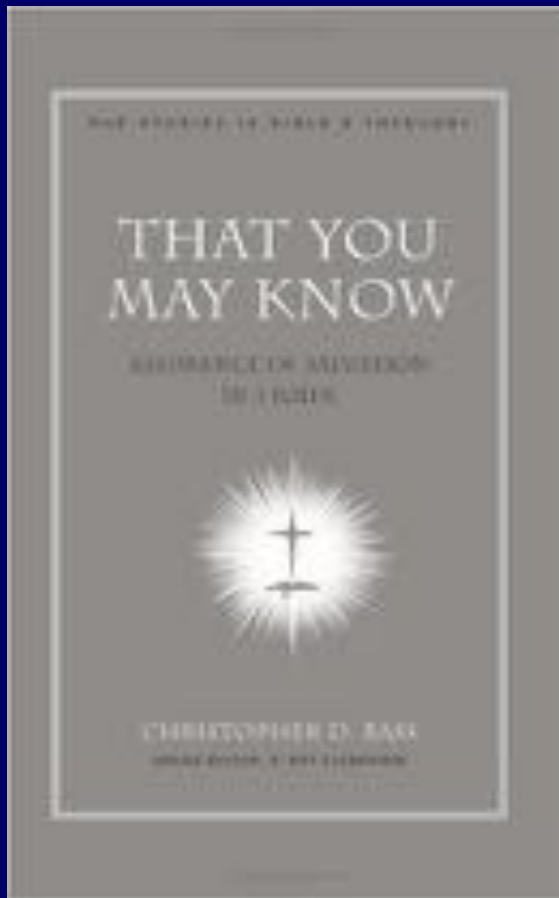
Saved Without a Doubt? How to be Sure of Your Salvation
(Wheaton, IL: Victor, 1988), 67-91.

John MacArthur claims that John wrote this epistle to provide "eleven tests" of genuine saving faith. These include such subjective questions as:

- "Do you obey God's Word?"
- "Do you reject this evil world?"
- "Do you eagerly await Christ's return?" and
- "Do you see a decreasing pattern of sin in your life?"

Christopher D. Bass,

That You May Know: Assurance of Salvation in 1 John
(Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman, 2008), 182-83.



“We must remember that the first letter of John is laden with various sets of criteria or ‘tests’ by which its readers are to evaluate their religious claims in light of the way they conduct their lives. The believers life style therefore serves as either a vital support to his or her assurance or is evidence that he has never really passed over from death to life.”

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2 VIEWS OF 1 JOHN

	TEST OF LIFE VIEW	TEST OF FELLOWSHIP VIEW
Summary	If you have righteous conduct, love, and truth then you know you were saved	If you have righteous conduct, love, in truth then you know you're in fellowship with God
Purpose Statement	1 Jn 5:13, "so that you may know that you have eternal life"	1 Jn 1:3, "so that you also may have fellowship with us (and) with the Father and with His Son"
Fellowship, Abiding	Being saved, being in union with God (in Christ)	Being in communion with God (walking in His Spirit)
Knowing God	Possessing eternal life	Enjoying fellowship with God
Eternal Life	Salvation (Jn 17:3)	Quality of life (Jn 10:10)
Light or Darkness	Being saved or being lost	Being in fellowship with God or being out of fellowship

Test of Life v. Fellowship

	Test of Life	Test of Fellowship
Summary	saved	in fellowship
Purpose statement	5:13	1:3-4
Fellowship, abiding	union	Communion (John 15:5)
Knowing God	eternal life	fellowship with God
Eternal life	John 17:3	John 10:10; Gal. 6:8
Light/darkness	saved/unsaved	in/out of fellowship
Judgment/fear	Hell (John 5:24)	Discipline/Bema (2 Cor. 5:10)
Spirit	Possession (Rom 8:9)	Influence (Gal 5:16; 1 Thess. 5:19)
Satan	Unbeliever (John 8:44)	Influence upon believer (Matt 16:21-23; Eph 4:26-27)

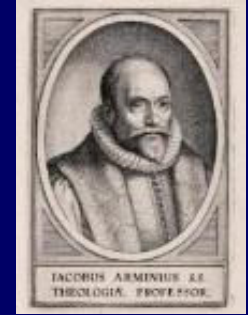
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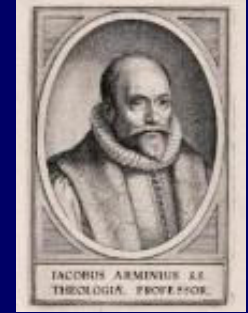
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- Other purpose statements in 1 John cover only what immediately follows (2:1 & 1:5-10; 2:26 & 2:18-25)
- 1 John 5:13 is not the book's purpose statement
- 1 John 1:3-4 is the book's purpose statement
- Heading in Scofield Reference Bible: "The Tests of Fellowship: Obedience and Love."
- "Knowing God" refers to intimacy or fellowship with God rather than being born again
- Out of fellowship believers do not know God (John 14:7-9; Gal. 4:9; 1 Cor. 15:34; 2 Pet. 3:18)
- Keeping God's commandments to know God (gain or keep salvation) contradicts Ephes. 2:8-9.



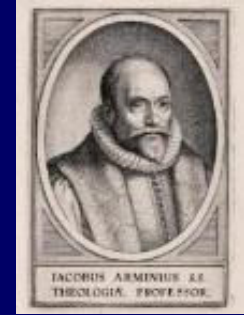
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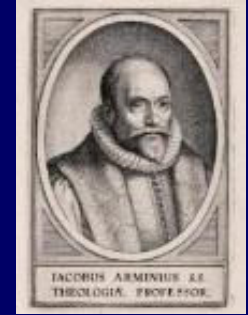
1 John 5:13

“These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.” (NASB)



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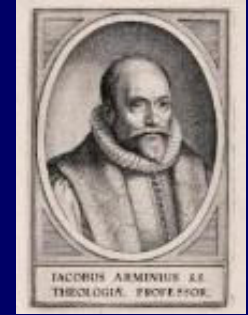
1 John 1:3-4

“what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete..” (NASB)



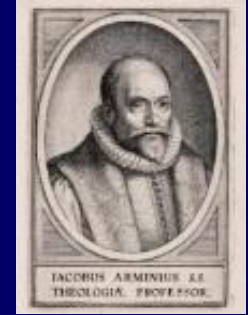
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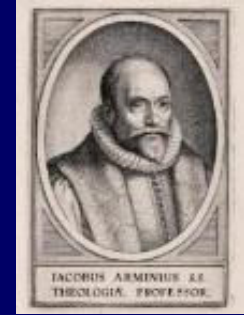
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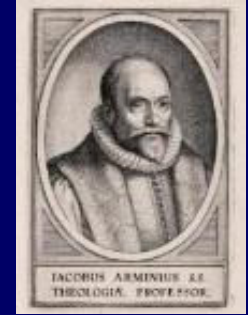
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1 John 2:3

“By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.” (NASB)



Passages from the General Letters & Revelation

a. Jas. 5:19-20

b. Heb. 3:6, 14

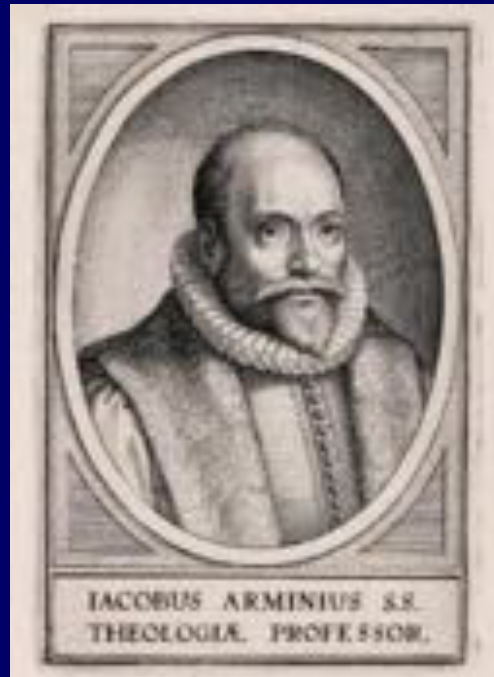
c. Heb. 5:9-10

d. Heb. 6:4-6

e. Heb. 10:26-30

f. Heb. 12:14

g. 2 Pet. 1:10-11



h. 2 Pet. 2:20-22

i. 1 John 2:3

a. 1 John 3:9

b. 1 John 3:15

c. 1 John 5:16

d. Rev. 3:5

e. Rev. 22:18-19

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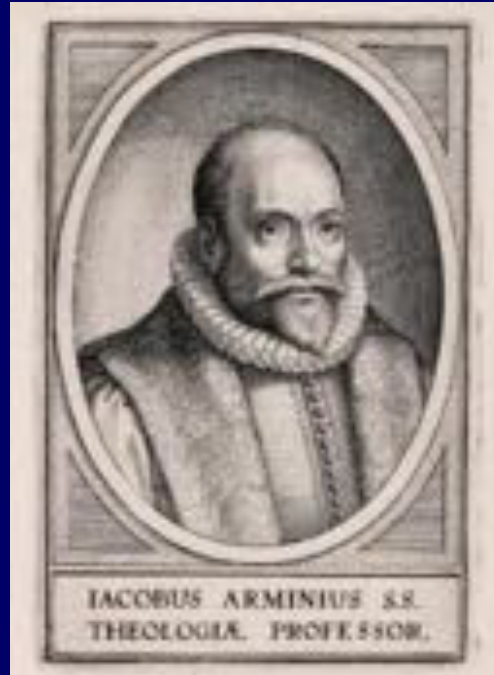
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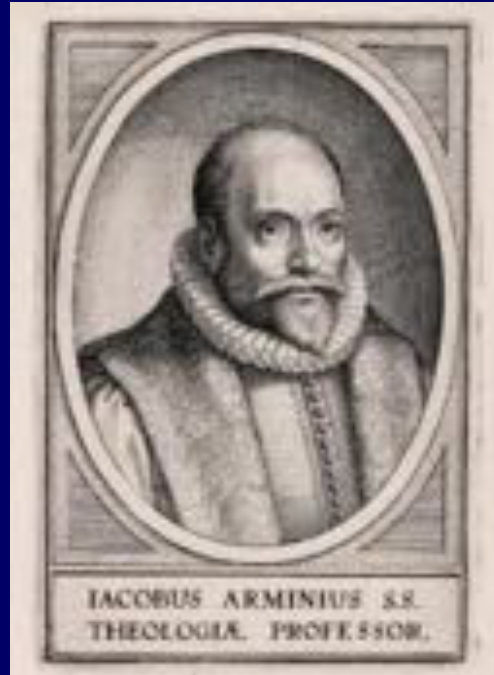
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CONCLUSION

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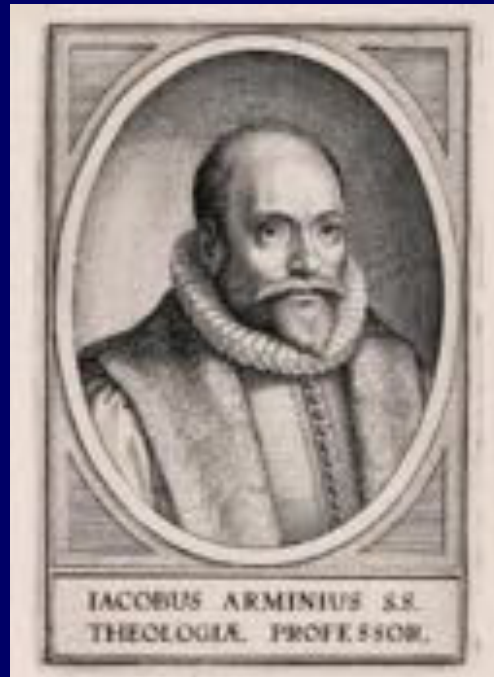
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