“The Basis For Assurance!”
Romans 8:12-17
Intro: The Quest “To Be Sure”

Assent to Gospel elements
+ (sometimes) a cautious nature that desires to please, or perform with perfection!
+ Confronting true sinful behavior
+ Uncertainty of feelings = “I’m not sure!”
Q: Can You Lose Your Salvation?
Foundation of Facts, Not Feelings

“He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son does not have the life. These things have I written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know you have eternal life” (1 John 5:12-13).

“For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable” (Romans 11:29)
Key: Vs. 14 – “All Who Are Being Led By The Spirit of God…”

“are sons of God”

“being led” presupposes:
* separate entities, One prompting the other to: a) follow b) move toward an objective

“Let’s move vs. 13 to here” from here
“dead in the flesh”

“alive in the Spirit”
The Inner Battle That Reflects Your Rebirth

Vs. 13 – “you are putting to death the deeds of the body”

The battleground in the heart? Gal. 5:19-25

FLESH VS. SPIRIT

Note: one who is yet “dead in sins” has no conscience, no regret over sin; rather “a spirit of slavery leading to fear” vs. 15
Can An Act of Disobedience Cause God to Disown You?

“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord”

(Romans 8:38-39).
God’s Forgiveness Changes Our Response to Him – Vs. 15

From fear:
* of judgment and condemnation
* exposure of the depths of our sin

To: “adoption as sons”
* “Abba, Father” (i.e. “Daddy!”) term of trust and endearment

“Perfect love casts out fear” (1 John 4:18).
Vs. 16 – “The Spirit Bears Witness That We Are Children of God”

You are a new creature – 2 Cor. 5:17

What’s new:
* love/desire to honor Jesus is stronger than the old sin patterns –
* you have POWER to say no to sin
* when you sin, the Spirit bears witness to bring conviction, confession, repentance

The new passion of the saved: “flee immorality!” (1 Cor. 6:18)
A New Heart Focus: vs. 17
“Pursuit of Kingdom Goals”

As children, we become “heirs”
-- of His eternal life
-- of His holiness
-- of His Kingdom – (Rev. 5:10)

Your suffering with Him triggers being glorified with Him – vs. 17b
So What Is The Basis For Your Assurance of Salvation?

1. “power over sin” vs. 13 = “Conviction, confession, repentance when we DO sin”
2. “being led by the Spirit” vs. 14
3. “Spirit bears witness with our spirits” vs. 16
4. “love of the brethren” – (1 John 3:14) “We know we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren.”