

“True Security”

John 10:22-30

Hello friend, I'm J. Mark Horst, your host and I welcome you to *Hope for Today*. The program you're listening to is produced by Heralds of Hope, we're an international Gospel media ministry. Each week the Bible teaching broadcasts of *Heralds of Hope* circle the globe in English and 21 other major languages. Thousands are tuning in each week to receive spiritual nourishment and blessing.

The Bible is the only source of lasting hope. It is God's Holy Word. You know as well as I do that we can't rely on the words of men because men change. Think of all the unkept promises people make, maybe even specific promises to you personally. But God is unchanging, He keeps His promises. His Word is the same yesterday, today, and forever. The Psalmist, David, said in Psalm 119:89, "*Forever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in Heaven.*" You and I can depend on God's Word.

Because God's Word is unchanging and reliable, we share this teaching with many people around the world in different languages in both audio and print. And we receive many testimonies of lives that have been transformed by the power of the Gospel.

Here's a testimony from a listener that was sent to us by the producers of our French language programs. "*I was raised in a very traditional religion, but it never seemed genuine. For a while, I joined another religion, but I was disappointed again in the teaching they presented. One day, I stumbled across the French program and realized that what I was hearing was the thing I had been searching for. After listening to this program several times, I gave my heart and life to Jesus Christ. I contacted the program producers, and they recommended a church where I can be further instructed in God's Word.*"

Isn't that a wonderful testimony? It is, and we'd like to hear your testimony too. How did you come to saving faith in Jesus Christ? Please share that with us.

Now, here's Dr. Yoder with today's teaching, "True Security."

How can you be sure of what you really believe? Where does your security lie? Some trust in horses and chariots, the Bible says. Some trust in uncertain riches. Some trust in princes and kings. Some may trust in their intelligence. You see, I was a Bible teacher on a college campus

and seminary for twenty-one years and so I know some of the routes that students take. Some trust in their intelligence.

All of these passes with time. But how can we be sure what we trust in will really endure, endure for the times beyond this life? Jesus' conversation with the people in John 10:22-30 reveals where TRUE SECURITY lies.

22 *And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter.*

23 *And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch.*

24 *Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.*

25 *Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.*

26 *But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.*

27 *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:*

28 *And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.*

29 *My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.*

30 *I and my Father are one.*

Here in these Bible verses, my friend, are set forth the DIRECTIVES to attain true security. I'm asking you, "Where have you placed your trust?"

The first directive is this: Make a Direct Investigation.

Here is a time and place. We are told that it was the feast of dedication. The Jews still observe that feast, the dedication of the temple 165 years before Christ, or before the common era. It was that time and the place was in the temple, Solomon's porch. They came to that particular time and place and raised a question with Jesus. They asked, "Who are you? Why

don't you tell us who you are? How long do you make us doubt? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

That word, Christ, is a very important word. It is the English word for the Greek word "Christos", which is a translation of the Hebrew word "Meshich", - the Messiah. Tell us if you are, in fact, the Messiah. Why do you keep us wondering?

I invite you to make a direct investigation of the record. Jesus said He had told them who He was and He told them He was the Messiah. But still they wanted some additional confirmation. So I am suggesting that you do what they did. You make a direct investigation.

But, when you do, you must Be Prepared for a Decisive Evaluation.

Because Jesus said, "I told you and you did not believe. The works that I am doing in my Father's Name, they bear witness of me." Now, what did He do? The Bible records thirty-seven miracles of mercy that Jesus performed. Thirty-seven miracles of mercy are recorded in the Gospel records, like healing the sick, raising the dead, casting out the demons, etc. Now, they should bear some testimony as to whom Jesus is, shouldn't they? Of course.

Besides that, He was teaching the truth. One time the people sent of the temple guards to take Jesus and they came back without Him. The people asked, "Why didn't you bring Him?" And they said, "Well, nobody talks like this man talks."

You see, He taught the truth. So you must be prepared for a decisive evaluation. And Jesus made it very clear that belief is a certain step. It's a step of certainty. He said, "You did not believe because you are not of my sheep."

Oh, my friend, I tell you. Jesus made a decisive evaluation of these people that were listening to Him. But I'm asking you, "Where do you stand now? What would Jesus say about you? Would He also say about you that you are not a true sheep?"

When you ask, when you make a direct investigation, you must be prepared for the decisive evaluation. Are you a believer?

There is a third directive: Receive the Definite Declaration.

Again, Jesus refers to the sheep and the shepherd. He said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." There is that intimacy and satisfying relationship. Jesus went

on to say, “I give to them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”

Think of the security there can be in faith in Jesus. That is where it is—belief in Jesus. That is where security actually comes from. He goes on to say that they are also secure in the Father’s hand because, “My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.”

You see the oneness between these two: the Father and the Son? He said, “Nobody is able to pluck them out of my hand...nobody is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.”

Once you believe in Jesus Christ as the true Shepherd and the Son of God, then you experience true security. That is the result. So long as your faith remains secure, He will hold you fast. You can be sure of that. You must receive this, however, as a very significant and definite declaration.

You see how true security deals not with the material, but with the heart and its peace. That is only possible in Jesus. So make your investigation. I implore you, I invite you to make a decisive and direct investigation. Study the case and see who Jesus is. But be prepared for His evaluation because He said if you do not believe in Him then you are not a true sheep. And receive His declaration. Once you really believe in Him and know Him as the true Shepherd and become a true sheep, He holds you fast.

Trust Him now. Will you?

Thank you, Dr. Yoder for showing us so clearly where true security can be found. I am so glad that I have found my security in Jesus. I am one of His sheep, and He wants you to be one of His sheep too. What are you waiting for? You can accept Him today and know true security. He will never leave you or forsake you, even in the darkest and most difficult times of life.

My friend, was this teaching helpful to you? If so, you can request a copy of it either on an audio CD or in a printed script. Just ask for it by the title, “True Security.”

You can send your request to us by e-mail using this address, mail@heraldsofhope.org. That email address again is, m-a-i-l@heraldsofhope.org. Or you may write to *Hope for Today*, Box 3, Breezewood, Pennsylvania 15533. Remember, you can request a printed manuscript or an audio CD of this teaching, “True Security.” We’d be happy to send it to you.

Once again, the quickest way for you to make your request is to send an e-mail to mail@heraldsofhope.org. Or you may write to *Hope for Today*, Box 3, Breezewood, Pennsylvania 15533. Ask for your free copy of this teaching, "True Security." It's available in print or on an audio CD.

And don't forget our Bible teaching programs are available to you all the time and any time at the website, twr360.org. That's twr360.org. Thousands are logging on to the site for spiritual nourishment and blessing. You can join them and be blessed too!

Now friend, I urge you to tune in next week as we continue study in the Gospel of John. And until then, keep looking for that blessed HOPE.