

The Gospel According to John

“The Ground on Which You Stand”

John 10:9-18 and 27-30



John 10:9-13

“I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

“I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and is not concerned about the sheep.”

John 10:14-18

I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock with one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father.”

John 10:27-30

“My sheep hear My voice,
and I know them, and they follow Me;
and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish;
and no one will 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.”

Main Idea

Your eternal salvation, eternal security, and eternal felicity are all grounded in Christ and in the good news of His redemption.

The Ground on Which You Stand

What is the ground of your salvation?



The ground of your salvation

God's word

John 10:17-18

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because I lay down My life so that I may take it again.

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but I lay it down on My own initiative.

I have authority to lay it down,
and I have authority to take it up again.

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What is this commandment?

John 10:17-18

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because **I lay down My life so that I
may take it again.**

No one has taken it away from Me,
but I lay it down on My own initiative.

I have authority to lay it down,
and I have authority to take it up again.

This commandment I received from My Father.”

This command – that Christ lay down His life and take it up again– is shorthand for the *eternal covenant of redemption*, in which God promised the Son a people and commissioned and sent Him to save them.

John 12:49-50

“For I did not speak on My own initiative,
but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me
a commandment as to what to say and what to speak.
I know that His commandment is eternal life;
therefore the things I speak,
I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

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**therefore the things *I speak,*
I speak just as the Father has told Me.”**

All that Jesus said was according to
God's eternal word in covenant to Him.

And God will not fail to keep His word.

This is the ground of your salvation.

The ground of your salvation

God's word

Christ's work

John 12:49-50

**“...the Father...has given Me
a commandment...**

...His commandment is eternal life...

The Father gave the Son a people and commanded that they be saved.

The Son freely agreed to receive and save them and fully obeyed the Father's command by accomplishing this work.

John 12:50

“...His commandment is eternal life”

John 14:31

“But so that the world may know that I love the Father,
I do exactly as the Father commanded Me.
Get up, let us go from here.”

John 12:50

“...His commandment is eternal life”

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“But so that the world may know that I love the Father,
I do exactly as the Father commanded Me.

Get up, let us go from here.”

Again...

John 12:50

“...His commandment is eternal life”

Jesus' response to this command?

John 10:10 and 15

“I came that they may have life...
[to that end] I lay down my life for the sheep.”

Jesus laid down His life on behalf of the sheep the Father had given Him in order to save them and give them life by fulfilling all the requirements of God's covenant for them.

**The ground of your salvation
is Christ's work, not yours!**

The Ground on Which You Stand

What is the ground of your salvation?

What is the ground of your security?



The ground of your security

God's power

John 10:29-30

“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.”

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“My Father, who has given them to Me, **is greater**
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out of the Father’s hand.**

I and the Father are one.”

If God has taken hold of you,
who has the power to snatch
you out of His hand?

God's power is the ground of
your security!

1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

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The ground of your security

God's power

Christ's promises

John 6:37

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,
and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.”



John 6:37

**“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,
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John 6:37

**“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,
and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.”**

*The Father promised that He would draw all His
people to Christ, and they would not fail to come.*

John 6:37

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,
and **the one who comes to Me I will
certainly not cast out.**”

John 6:37

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,
and **the one who comes to Me I will
certainly not cast out.**”

*Christ promised that He would not
cast out any who come to Him.*

John 6:37

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,
and **the one who comes to Me I will
certainly not cast out.**”

*Christ promised that He would not
cast out any who come to Him.*

He will not break this promise!

He promised *eternal* life to them.

John 10:27-28

“My sheep hear My voice,
and I know them, and they follow Me;
and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish;
and no one will snatch them out of My hand.”

He promised *eternal* life to them.

John 10:27-28

“My sheep hear My voice,
and I know them, and they follow Me;

and **I give eternal life to them**, and they will never perish;
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“My sheep hear My voice,
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“My sheep hear My voice,
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**and no one will snatch them out
of My hand.”**

Your eternal security is not grounded on your ability to keep your promises to Christ but on Christ's ability to keep His promises to you!

Will He fail?

The Ground on Which You Stand

What is the ground of your salvation?

What is the ground of your security?

What is the ground of your felicity?



The ground of your felicity

Faith in Christ

John 10:27-28

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.”

The joy of your salvation
begins by believing Christ and
then resting in Him!

Will you believe Him?

John 10:9-10

“I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

Do you believe this?

If you are to enter the lush
pasturelands and experience the
abundant life that Christ offers you,
you must believe Him.

That is, you must believe that *what
He declares good, is indeed good!*

John 10:9-10

“If...anyone enters through Me,
he will...find pasture...*and* have life,
and have it abundantly”

Christ's upside-down world...

Luke 9:24

“For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for My sake,
he is the one who will save it.”

Our problem is that we cling to what
we believe is life to us, and we fear
entrusting our happiness to Christ.

Bear this in mind:

*Christ has made faith in Him
the pathway into His blessings.*

In other words, the Lord will not give you
the blessings of faith until you believe.

James 1:5-8

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

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The ground of your felicity

Faith in Christ

Delight in Christ

Remember what Jesus has said of Himself.

“I am the source of living water.” (4:10)

“I am the bread of life.” (6:35)

“I am the Light of the world.” (8:12)

“I am the good Shepherd.” (10:11)

These statements all refer to Christ as the source and caretaker of life—***He*** is the Fountain of your delights.

Psalm 37:4

Delight yourself in the LORD;
And He will give you the desires of your heart.

What keeps us from delighting in Christ?

Ignorant familiarity

Latent Ingratitude

Stubborn Discontent

Subtle Disbelief

Persistent Worry

Worldly pursuits

How can you learn to delight in Christ?

Learn to meditate on Christ Himself.

Learn to meditate on the gospel.

Learn to give thanks in all things.

Learn to convert even your mundane activities into worship.

Learn to prepare for corporate worship.

Concluding Questions

What is the ground of your salvation?

What is the ground of your security?

What is the ground of your happiness?

Will you choose to delight in Christ?