

**Problem:**

*there is an eternal difference between presumption*

*presumption - Rom 2:1-5; 1 Cor 10:6-12 - take heed  
and assurance*

*assurance - Heb 4:14-16 (with confidence); 10:19-25 (full assurance)*

*let me illustrate this*

*true or false - once saved always saved?*

*we can be assured of the major premise*

*what about the minor premise -that you were once saved?*

*in the most practical way possible -1 John is about confirming the minor premise*

*test yourself - 2 Cor 13:5*

**Text:****Blessed assurance, the Jesus of Scripture is mine (correct Christology...)**

1John 1:1 That which was from **the beginning (neuter-links revelation with a person)**, which we (apostolic we- formal deposition) have heard (perfect), which we have seen (perfect) with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning **the word** of life—

1John 1:2 the life was made **manifest**, and **we have seen it (perfect)**, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—

*(1) Gen 1:1 from the beginning*

*(2)- Rev 19:13 the Word of God*

*-> John 1:1-5, 14 - the eternal Word was seen in material world*

*Luke 24:36-43 -spirits dont eat fish*

*against false christology - 1 Jn 2:18-19, 22, 26; 4:1-3*

*God has tangibly revealed Himself in the Incarnation*

*- no secret to see Him as He revealed Himself openly - 1 Jn 5:11-13*

*-so why do people get Him so wrong? they deny the clear revelation of Scripture*

*mormonism got its ideas from Joseph smith and a fake angel meroni not Scripture*

*Islam gets its whacky ideas from a fake angel and a false prophet -not Scripture*

*JW's get its ideas from the whacky watch tower magazine -not Scripture*

*and modern catholicism gets its whacky ideas from popes and councils -not Scripture*

*I could go on to whacky Charismatic churches getting its ideas from the spasmodic gibberish of unstable emotionalism*

*or the prosperity proclamations of self help pimps*

*or the new age meditations of fake gurus*

*or the even the general cultural soup pandering to itching ears*

*-but none of these even try to base their assertions on Scripture*

**Fellowship is a foretaste of glory divine (...is the cornerstone of a genuine fellowship...)**

1John 1:3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have

**fellowship** with us; and **indeed** our **fellowship** is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

*indeed - Correct Christology 1 Jn 1:5-7 (God is light); 4:7-12 (God is love)*

*fellowship - is the cornerstone of a genuine fellowship: Jn 13:34-35; 17:20-23*

**Joyful heirs of salvation, purchased together by God (...of joyful...)**

1John 1:4 And we are writing these things so that our **joy** may be complete.

*John 10:14-16 -> destined to be perfectly one -> Phil 2:1-2 (complete my joy) of joyful*

**Implication:**

**I know I am Born of His Spirit and washed in His blood (...assurance)**

*John's gospel written for you to be born again -> Jn 1:9-13*

*1 John was written to test yourself you are born again -> 1 Jn 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4...*

**Application:****Is this your story? Is this your song?**

*1 Jn 5:18-21 -> watch out for idols*

*watch out for presumption (5:18)*

*watch out for fellowship with the world (5:19)*

*watch out for fake Christs and fickle fellowship (5:20)*

*The clear revelation of Christ in Scripture is God's everlasting "no" to the most fundamental human attempts at idolatry.*

*This Christ is the cornerstone of a genuine fellowship of joyful assurance.*

*so keep yourself from idols (5:21)*

*end: best way to spot an idol is to know the real thing better - this is it*

**Main Idea:**

**blessed assurance the Jesus of Scripture is mine**

**fellowship is a foretaste of glory divine**

**joyful heirs of salvation, purchased together by God**

**I know I am Born of His Spirit and washed in His blood (implication)**

**Is this your story? Is this your song? (Application)**

*Some articles for further study:*

<http://www.gty.org/resources/positions/P17/a-believers-assurance-a-practical-guide-to-victory-over-doubt>

<http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/the-agonizing-problem-of-the-assurance-of-salvation>

<https://bible.org/seriespage/3-author-s-opponents-and-their-teaching-1-john>