

## **That You May Know (1John 5:1-13)**

### **Introduction**

God wants us to be able to say with assurance, “The Lord is *my* shepherd (Ps 23:1). “I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinks of *me*” (Ps 40:17). “We know that nothing shall separate *us* from the love of God” (Rom 8:39). If we can have assurance that Christ died *for* us, we have confidence in every area of life. “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” (Rom 8:30-31).

### **1. Assurance is a reality: We can know that we have eternal life (v. 13)**

God wants us to *know* that we are saved! He wants us to live in this world knowing that we’ll soon arrive at our eternal home in the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God (Heb 11:10).

### **2. Assurance is based on realities: Love, Faith, and Obedience (v. 1-5)**

We can’t *believe* in Jesus Christ without *loving* the Father and his children (v. 1-2a). We can’t *love* the Father and his children without *keeping* his commands and overcoming the world (v. 2b-4a). We can’t *keep* his commands and overcome the world without *believing* in Jesus Christ. (v. 4b-5).

Hence John deals with the *moral* lie (1:6, 2:4), the *doctrinal* lie (2:22-23), and the *relational* lie (4:20)

### **3. We must believe the testimony of God about His Son (v. 6-12)**

“*Water and blood*” has been understood by most Christian writers since Tertullian (2<sup>nd</sup> century) as a reference to Jesus’ *baptism* and Jesus’ *death*. The Gnostic teacher Cerinthius led people astray teaching that the son of God descended on Jesus at his baptism, but ascended before Jesus’ death.

But there’s one more witness that testifies here on earth. “It is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth” (1Jo 5:6).

**Application:** *Why, then, do people struggle with assurance?*

#### **1. They aren’t saved**

“God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess” (Luke 18:11).

#### **2. They don’t know when they believed**

“The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit” (John 3:8). Just sing, “I know *whom* I have believed” (2Tim 1:12).

#### **3. They see their own sin and unbelief**

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (1John 1:8).

**Conclusion:** Nothing “shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom 8:35,38).