

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. Please take God's Word and turn with me to 1 John chapter 5.
2. This morning we are looking at only one verse.
3. But it is the one verse everyone is most familiar.
4. It is verse 13.
5. John says, "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life."
6. The assurance of salvation is most important for the believer.
7. And in this passage, John is stating it as why he wrote this letter.

8. The false teachers, who were known as the gnostics, had tried to “deceive” these believers (2:24).
9. And because of this, many believers had lost the joy of their salvation (1:4).
10. So John says in 1:4, “These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.”
11. Not only John’s joy but the joy of every believer reading this letter.
12. False teachers don’t offer true joy but are those who steal joy and offer up something they define as truth but all it is is an emotional manipulation coming from false promises and empty words.
13. John has just ended his case for Christ and salvation.
14. Now he reminds his readers that the purpose of this letter is to assure their hearts that they are saved.
15. John moves from speaking in the second person in verse 12 to the first person in verse 13.
16. In verse 12 he says, “He who” but in verse 13 he says, “I.”

17. So verse 13 does not continue his flow of thought from verses 1-12.
18. He is now moving to conclude this letter by appealing to the very reason why he wrote it.
19. In verse 13 he begins with two words "These things."
20. What are "these things" he has written to them?
21. It's the entire letter of 1 John.
22. And in the entire letter he tells what every believer knows and how to be assured you have eternal life.
23. Notice in verse 13 the use of the word "know."
24. It occurs 39 times in this epistle.
25. Out of the 39 times it occurs 7 times in verses 13-21.
26. 6 of the 7 times John uses the Greek word oida.
27. This word refers to absolute knowledge---not somethings learned by experience---but by revelation.

28. So the theme of verses 13-21 is “what we know.”
29. He even uses the word “confidence” in verse 14.
30. What do we know as Christians that can build our confidence that we’re saved?
31. If you take just this letter, 1 John, John notes 21 things that all true believers know.
32. They know Jesus (2:3)
33. They know God (2:13-14)
34. They know truth (2:20-21)
35. They know Jesus is righteous (2:29)
36. They know everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him (2:29)
37. They know they will be like Him when He appears (3:2)
38. They know Jesus appeared to take away sin (3:5)
39. They know there is no sin in Jesus (3:5)

40. They know they have passed out of death into life (3:14)
41. They know no murderer has eternal life abiding in him (3:15)
42. They know Jesus laid down His life for us (3:16)
43. They know they are of the truth (3:19)
44. They know God abides in them (3:24)
45. They know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error (4:6)
46. They know they abide in God and He abides in them (4:13)
47. They know they love the children of God (5:2)
48. They know they have eternal life (5:13)
49. They know God hears them (5:15)
50. They know that no one born of God practices sin (5:18)
51. They know they are of God (5:19)
52. They know the Son of God has come (5:20)

53. Do you see why this book is important?
54. Do you see why John writes these things with absolute certainty and how you can be certain too?
55. The Bible is a book of absolutes, it's a book of certainties.
56. As Christians, we are certain how the universe began.
57. We are certain how it will end.
58. We are certain why God created and how His purpose in the beginning will consummate in the end.
59. We are certain about why people behave the way they behave.
60. We are certain about what is right and what is wrong.
61. We are certain about the elements that make for good human relationships.
62. We are certain about what is necessary to go to heaven.
63. We are certain there is a hell and certain about how people get there.

64. We are certain about God's promises, certain about His Son the Savior, certain about His substitutionary death, certain about His literal resurrection, certain about His Second Coming.<sup>1</sup>
65. And we are certain about eternal life.
66. Where do we get that certainty? From God's Word!
67. Notice again what John says in the beginning of verse 13: "These things I have written to you..."
68. John alludes to his first certainty in verse 13 by essentially stating...

## **LESSON**

### I. Scripture Assures Us of Eternal Life (v.13a)

Where do we learn about eternal life? From God's Word.

When we read God's Word we learn that...

#### A. Christ is Eternal Life (1:1; 5:20)

##### 1. What does this mean?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/62-40/christian-certainties-part-1>

2. Eternal life is not just a duration of life, it's possessing Christ now.
3. Eternal life is about a quality of life, a kind of life we have now and will forever have the life of God in us, holy and pure and righteous and good and content and satisfied and fulfilled.
4. Eternal life is a life that lacks nothing, wants nothing, seeks nothing, misses nothing, desires nothing other than what it has. God's life in us, we already have it, that's what he says, that you may know that you have eternal life.<sup>2</sup>

#### B. Eternal Life is Given By God

Romans 6:23 (NASB) For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### C. Eternal Life is Given By Jesus Christ

The last line in Romans 6:23 says that it's "in Christ Jesus our Lord."

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/62-40/christian-certainties-part-1>



1. Jesus said in John 6:27 (NASB) Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal.”
2. He said in John 10:27-28 (NASB) My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; 28 and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.
3. John said in 1 John 5:11 (NASB) And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.
4. How can you know that you have eternal life?  
Look back at 1 John:
  - a) Do you walk in the light (1:7)?
  - b) Do you confess sin (1:9-2:2)?
  - c) Do you keep His commandments (2:3-5)?
  - d) Do you love your brother (2:10-11)?
  - e) Do you hate the world (2:15-17)?
  - f) Do you confess Jesus as Messiah (2:22)?
  - g) Do you have the Anointing (2:27)?
  - h) Do you practice righteousness (2:29)?

- i) Is your hope in Christ's appearing (3:3)?
- j) Do you sacrifice for believers (3:16-18)?
- k) Do you confess Jesus is the Son of God (4:15; 5:5)?

## II. Belief in the Name of the Son of God Assures Us of Eternal Life (v.13b)

### A. Believing is More Than Mental Assent to Some Facts About Jesus

“Believe” (Pisteuo) means “to believe, have faith in, trust, to be firmly persuaded as to something, to believe.”<sup>3</sup> It means “to believe to the extent of complete trust and reliance.”<sup>4</sup>

To say you believe is to say that you are “firmly persuaded” that Jesus is the Son of God and because of your firm persuasion, you put your “complete trust and reliance” on Him and His saving grace.

In other words, you commit your life to Him!

John 2:23-25 (NASB) Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many

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<sup>3</sup> Zodhiates, Spiros. [The complete word study dictionary: New Testament](#) 2000 : n. pag. Print.

<sup>4</sup> Louw, Johannes P., and Eugene Albert Nida. Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains 1996 : 375. Print.

believed in His name, observing His signs which He was doing. 24 But Jesus, on His part, was not entrusting (committing) Himself to them, for He knew all men, 25 and because He did not need anyone to testify concerning man, for He Himself knew what was in man.

V.23, “Many believed in His name”

V.24, Jesus “not entrusting Himself to them”

Both words come from the same verb pisteuo.

The NKJV translated “entrusting” as “commit.”

This brings a whole new light to John 3:16 which uses this verb.

“That whosoever believes (commits) in Him.”

“Though they believed in Jesus, Jesus did not believe in them. He had no faith in their faith”<sup>5</sup>

Jesus “knew all men and because He did not need anyone to testify concerning man, for He Himself knew what was in man” (v.25).

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<sup>5</sup> MacArthur, John F. The MacArthur Study Bible: John 2:24-25.

B. Believing in His Name Refers to His Nature or Person (v.13b)

“These things I have written to you who *believe in the name* of the Son of God.”

1. Scripture reveals that Jesus is God incarnate - 1 John 5:20 (NASB) And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.
2. Scripture reveals that He was with the Father in the beginning - John 1:1
3. Scripture reveals that He said He is the I AM in John 8:58, “Jesus said to them (the Jews), ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, ‘I am.’”
4. Scripture reveals that He said He is the Messiah in John 4:25-26 (NASB) The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming (He who is called Christ); when that One comes, He will declare all things to us.” 26 Jesus said to her, “I who speak

to you am He.”

5. Scripture reveals that He healed people - Matthew 4:23 (NASB) Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.
6. Scripture reveals that He raised the dead - John 11:43, “...Lazarus, come forth.”
7. Scripture reveals that He resurrected from the dead - Matthew 28:6, “He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.”

III. Believing He is the Son of God is the Content of Your Belief (v.13c)

- A. What do I believe about Jesus?
- B. He is the Son of God

1. Peter confessed He is the Son of God - Matthew 16:15-16 (NASB) He \*said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

2. The Centurion confessed He is the Son of God - Mark 15:39 (NASB) When the centurion, who was standing right in front of Him, saw the way He breathed His last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"
3. The devil confessed He is the Son of God - Luke 4:3 (NASB) And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."
4. John the Baptist confessed He is the Son of God - John 1:34 (NASB) I myself have seen, and have testified that this is the Son of God."
5. Nathaniel confessed He is the Son of God - John 1:48-49 (NASB) Nathanael \*said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." 49 Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God; You are the King of Israel."

## **CONCLUSION**

"These things are I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life."

1. Do you believe?
2. Is there evidence of your claim of Christ?
3. Has something shaken your assurance?
4. Remember, John wrote this so “you may know you have eternal life.”
5. Examine your life.
6. Let’s pray.