

EPISTLE OF 1 JOHN
STANDING IN CONFIDENCE
1 JOHN 5:11-17

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Introduction

We saw three great truths about our salvation last time in verses 11-12:

First of all there is the truth that eternal life is a gift given, not something we earn or deserve!

Secondly, eternal life is found in Christ, and so in order to give it God sent His Son into the world to pay the price for our sin!

Thirdly, eternal life is something we have as a present possession!

We've seen in this passage thus far that **trusting and believing on the Christ of Scripture is absolutely essential to salvation!**

You cannot both be a Christian and reject Jesus' Person!

You cannot both be a Christian and reject what the Bible teaches about Christ's Person!

Mankind longs for both **CERTAINTY and SECURITY** in the things of this world but they are evasive at best! (*e.g. The stock market, safety in society*)

However, when it comes to the things of God, **CERTAINTY and SECURITY** are exactly what we have and it comes our way from a Sovereign God Who has the ability to bring His own will to pass!

However, many folks have bought into a false salvation in which they can find **NO CERTAINTY** and hence they have **NO SECURITY!**

However, for the **TRUE BELIEVER** on Christ Jesus, **CERTAINTY and SECURITY** are a **REAL THING!** God has given us the ability to **"KNOW"** that we're saved because we have His Word on it!

We don't have to wonder about our future because the future we have in Christ is a **REAL HOPE...A "SURE EXPECTATION!"**)

We don't have to live in the shadow of a **think so, hope so, or maybe so life.** Through Jesus we live in the **KNOW SO NOW!**

The Apostle John, who at the time he wrote this, was an old man, has penned this first epistle to a group of believers who have seemingly been beaten down in their faith.

They had been told that Jesus was not who He claimed to be, that their faith was in a false god, and they had no way **TO KNOW** that He was indeed the answer.

John wrote this letter so that His readers might remember what they had initially sensed when they placed their trust in Christ!

Last time we saw John appeal to witnesses to Who Jesus is! Three earthly witnesses and three heavenly witnesses!

Jesus being both the **Son of God (Deity)** and the **Son of Man (Humanity)** separates truth from fiction and John nails down this truth in the verses we dealt with last time. (*Verses 1-12*)

Now let's pick up in **verse 13 and read through the end of the Chapter!**

We have seen in our going through this epistle that **the word "KNOW" is a key word!**

Many people have problems with assurance of their relationship with God. Some are caused by **not knowing the promises of God.** While others are caused by **doubts about the promises of God!** Still others are **caused by the result of sin in one's life!**

God wants each Believer to live in full assurance of faith! He has confirmed His promises to us with His written Word which He has given to us to aid in our Spiritual growth. Yet some Believers seem to be addicted to doubt! God doesn't want us to doubt but to stand in full assurance of faith!

He wants us to **STAND IN CONFIDENCE!**

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I. GOD WANTS US TO BE CONFIDENT IN OUR SALVATION!

(Vs 13)

A. We Have Believed On The Son Of God!

1. We Have Believed In His Deity And His Humanity!

We have believed the witnesses and testimony:

- a. The Witness Of The Water.
- b. The Witness Of The Blood.
- c. The Witness Of The Spirit. (Through the Word!)

2. We Have Believed In His Work On The Cross—His Death On Our Behalf!

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

3. We Have Believed In His Victorious Resurrection Over Sin, Death, And The Grave!

Romans 10:9— That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

1 Peter 1:21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

B. Having Believed On The Son Of God, We Have Eternal

Life! *John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

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C. We Keep On Believing On The Son Of God!

1. The More We Know Christ, The More We Come To Trust Christ! (Vs 13)

e.g. Trusting someone we don't know is difficult.

But trusting someone with whom we have an established relationship is a lot easier, especially if that someone has a proven record of reliability!

Christ has proven Himself in His life!

Christ has proven Himself in His death!

Christ has proven Himself in His resurrection!

Christ continues to prove Himself in our life!

(i.e. The more we come to know Christ experientially in our lives, the more we come to trust Him!)

2. The More We Trust Christ, The More Confidence We Have In Him! (Vs 13)

In fact, our confidence proves our trust!

3. The Christian Life Is A Life Of Faith!

*Galatians 2:20 "...Christ liveth in me: and **the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.**"*

2 Corinthians 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

*Colossians 2:6-7 6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: 7 Rooted and built up in him, and **stablished in the faith**, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.*

GOD WANTS US TO BE CONFIDENT IN OUR SALVATION...

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II. GOD WANTS US TO BE CONFIDENT IN OUR PRAYER LIFE!

(Vs 14-17)

A. In Christ, We Can Pray With Confidence That Our Prayers Are Being Heard By Him! (Vs 14)

Ephesians 3:12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

B. In Christ, We Can Pray According To His Will! (Vs 14)

God's will is what is best in our lives and the lives of those we love!

James 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

C. In Christ, When We Pray According To His Will, We Can Have Confidence That Our Prayers Will Be Answered!

(Vs 15)

Jeremiah 33:3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

John 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

D. In Christ, When We Can Have Confidence When We Have To Pray Difficult Prayers For Others! (Vs 16-17)

Conclusion

How is your CONFIDENCE in the LORD tonight?

God wants us CONFIDENT in our salvation! How confident are you?

God wants us CONFIDENT in our prayer life! How confident are you