NOTES FOR THIS COMING WEEK: 6/1-6/2 2020

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: *1 JOHN 5:6 – 13*

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7 PM MONDAY NIGHT & 7 AM TUESDAY MORNING ONLINE BIBLE STUDY MEETINGS:

WE WILL CONTINUE IN CHAPTER FIVE, VERSE 6 OF THE EPISTLE OF FIRST JOHN!

I'll open the meeting a bit early, to give you a little time, if needed, to get online, join the meeting and check out your mic and sound.

Type in the https:// for the meeting you want to attend: If you have any trouble with logging in on the website – download the Zoom.us app from the internet, sign in, hit join meeting and enter the meeting number 817880051 form Monday night; 444504400 for Tuesday morning.

7 PM MONDAY NIGHT MEETINGS:

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/817880051 for **Monday night 7pm** meeting # **817880051**; hit join, then when asked, give your name. The need for a password has been removed!

7 AM TUESDAY MORNING MEETINGS:

(https://us04web.zoom.us/j/444504400 for **Tuesday morn 7am** meeting # **444504400**; hit join, when asked, give your name. The need for a password has been removed!

FOR PHONE: (please do not use more than one device at a time, such as your computer and your phone, as the feedback between the two devices causes echoing noises, which are disturbing.)

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7 pm Mon Meeting ID: 817 880 051 7 am Tues Meeting ID: 444504400

Find your local number: https://us04web.zoom.us/u/fb2a3NvOy1

OPENING PRAYER - PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 1 JOHN 5:6 – 5:13

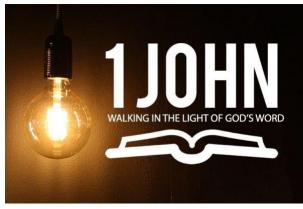
The Certainty of God's Witness – vs. 5:6-13 The Assurance and Certainty of Salvation – vs. 9-13

<u>"Agnus Dei"</u> (Lamb of God) Michael W. Smith/First Dallas Choir & Orchestra

- Alleluia, Alleluia, For the Lord God Almighty reigns Alleluia, Alleluia, For the Lord God Almighty reigns Alleluia, Holy, Holy are You Lord God Almighty, Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb. You are holy, Holy are you Lord God Almighty, Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb Amen (2x)
- Amen are you Lord God Almighty, Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb
- You are holy, Holy are you Lord God Almighty, Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb (4)
- You are holy, Holy are you Lord God Almighty, Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb, Amen
- Amen!!!

THE EPISTLE OF 1 JOHN

- FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD
- First John has been called the "Holy of Holies" of the New Testament. It takes the believer, the child of God, across the threshold into the fellowship of our Father's house!
- A comparison or division of First John has been made that the Book of Romans deals with how we come out of the house of bondage; Ephesians is how we enter the banquet house; Hebrews is how we approach the throne of grace, but First John is how we approach His Divine Presence!
- God has put a desire for relationship in every one of us, a desire He intended to be met with relationships with other people, but most of all, to be met by a relationship with Him.
- In this remarkable letter, John tells us the truth about relationships and shows us how to have relationships that are real, for both now and eternity. The purpose of the Epistle is to bring you into relationship with God.
- It is the "family" epistle! It's not addressed to any person, city or church. The church is a body of believers in the position where we are blessed, having been given that position when we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Believing on Christ brings us into the family of God.
- In the family we have a relationship which can be broken by sin, but it is restored when "we confess our sins." Then "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)
- Written around 90 A.D. John was the last living apostle, who at that time was the apostle who hadn't been martyred for Christ. John was a living eyewitness!
- The heresy of Gnosticism was gaining a foothold in the Church when John wrote this letter. The Gnostics believed that all material was evil and therefore that Jesus was not in a living body like ours but was a phantom when He lived on the Earth and didn't have a body of flesh.
- John sought to correct the heresy by emphasizing the deity of Jesus Christ in his writings as one who was with Jesus, walking with Him and observing Him during His public ministry. We will see this testimony of the living Christ in this epistle.
- Phrases and Words frequently used in 1 John: $he\ who 30x$; $we\ know 16x$; $if\ we 10x$; $by\ this\ we\ know 8x$; if $we\ say 3x$



• Words: God - 57x; know(known) - 37x; love - 36x; sin/s/ed/ing - 27x; Sonof God - 23x; if - 21x; commandment - 14x; life - 13x; have written - 13x; Jesus - 11x; believe - 10x; Holy Spirit - 7x; overcome/s - 6x; light - 5x.

1 JOHN 1:1 - 5:5

Review:

The Word of Life: 1Jn 1:1-3
Walking in the Light: 1Jn 1:4-10
Christ Our Advocate: 1Jn 2:1-6
The New Commandment: 1Jn 2:7

The New Commandment: 1Jn 2:7-14 Do Not Love the World: 1Jn 2:15-17

Warning Concerning Antichrists: 1Jn 2:18-19
Deceptions of the Last Hour: 1Jn 2:20-23

Let Truth Abide in You - 1Jn 2:24-27

The Children of God – What Manner of Love - 1Jn 2:28-29 – 3:1-3

Sin and the Child of God - $1Jn \ 3:4 - 3:9$ The Imperative of Love - $1Jn \ 3:10 - 15$ The Outworking of Love - $1Jn \ 3:16 - 23$

The Spirit of Truth & the Spirit of Error (Test the Spirits) - 1Jn 3:24 - 4:6

Knowing God Through Love - 1Jn 4:7 - 11 Seeing God Through Love - 1 John 4:12 - 16 The Consummation of Love - 1 John 4:17-19

Obedience by Faith – 1 John 4:20-5:5

Review of Last Week's Study - *Chapter 5:* In chapter five, we actually enter into the third section of the book. The first section John reveals **God as light**. In the second section, John reveals **God as love**. And in this last section of the book, we are introduced to **God as life**. God is light, God is love and God is life.

Overcoming the World - vs. 5:1-5

1Jn 5:1 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ You become a child of God through simple faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, trusting who He is as well as what He did. is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. You are going to love Him as well as others who are born again.

1Jn 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, which is a proof that we love God. when we love God and keep (regard) His commandments. Our love to God is the cause why we love His children, and our keeping the commandments of God is the proof that we love Him 1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of (for) God, that we keep His commandments. This is the heart, this is it. If you don't have love for the brethren, then you really have no proof or assurance that you're a child of God. And His commandments are not burdensome. They impose no burden on us because we are keeping them through love.

1Jn 5:4 For whatever is (everyone) born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. We are overcomers if we are born again! Our faith gives us victory. It is faith that saves us, and it is faith that keeps us.

1Jn 5:5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? We overcome because we believe that Jesus is not only the Messiah, who came to save us, but that He also is the Son of God

This Week's Study:

The Certainty of God's Witness - vs. 5:6-13

Testimony Concerning the Son of God

IJn 5:6 This is He who came by water (fluid of life) and blood (fluid of death)—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. (Joh 1:31-34) I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." [32] And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. [33] I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' [34] And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God." (Mat 3:13-15) Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. [14] And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" [15] But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. (Joh 3:5) Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

• What does it mean He came by water and the blood? Most likely, John means the *water* of Jesus' baptism, and the *blood* of His crucifixion. We

remember that when Jesus was crucified, they came and they broke the legs of the two malefactors that were hanged on either side of Jesus. But we read, When they came to Jesus He was already dead. It is interesting that Jesus had said, (Joh 10:18) No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."

- We read in the scriptural account that when Jesus hanging there on the cross said, (Joh 19:30-37) So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His Spirit. [31] Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. [32] Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. [33] But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. [34] But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.
- The water indicates that Jesus actually, if you were a coroner and you examine the body later, you'd say, He died of a heart rupture. Because when the heart ruptures, the sac around the heart fills with sort of a watery kind of fluid. And the fact that there came forth blood and water indicates the heart rupture or you might say, He died of a broken heart.
- He came not by water only but by water and the blood. There came forth water and the blood and it is by the blood of Jesus Christ that we are cleansed from our sins. John tells us that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses a man from all sin. [53] And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. [36] For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "NOT ONE OF HIS BONES SHALL BE BROKEN." [37] And again another Scripture says, "THEY SHALL LOOK ON HIM WHOM THEY PIERCED."
- John combats the Gnostic false teachers who asserted that the "Christ-spirit" came upon the man Jesus at His baptism and departed from the man Jesus just prior to His death on the cross. John writes to show that God has given testimony to the deity of Jesus through both His baptism and death.
- When Jesus was baptized, He was not baptized in repentance for His own sin (He had none), but because He wanted to completely identify with sinful humanity. When He *came by water*, it was His way of saying, "I am one of you."
- When Jesus died on the cross, He did not die because He had to (death could have no power over Him), but He laid down His life to identify with sinful humanity and to save us from our sin. When He *came by . . . blood it* was to

stand in our place as a guilty sinner, and to take the punishment our sin deserved.

And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth (The Holy Spirit is the third and the chief witness at the baptism of Jesus and all through his ministry). (Joh 14:17) the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. (Rom 8:16-17) The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, [17] and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

- the Spirit is truth. John no longer emphasizes apostolic testimony, (1Jn 4:14) And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. but writes of the testimony of God that comes through the Holy Spirit.
- Since the Spirit of God cannot lie, His testimony is sure. (*Joh 16:13-14*) However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. [14] He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. This is crucial information essential to our salvation.
- It is Biblical to establish the truth and to establish the facts of a case. (*Mat 18:16*) But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY WORD MAY BE ESTABLISHED.'
- The works that Jesus did. (Joh 14:10) Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. [11] Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.
- He appealed to the works that He did, the miracles that He performed. When John the Baptist sent his disciples to Jesus to ask Him, (Luk 7:19, 22) And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to Jesus, saying, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" [22] Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them.
- That's the witness that I am the One you're looking for. I'm the Messiah. Jesus went on to say, (*Joh 5:37*) And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form.

- In (Joh 8:18) I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me."
- He said, (Joh 10:25) Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me.
- He said to His disciples, (*Joh 15:27*) And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.
- John said, (*1Jn 1:2-3*) the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—[3] that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.
- We're witnesses. The Spirit of God here is witnessing, bearing witness. The Spirit is true.

1Jn 5:7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; (Joh 1:1) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was With God, and the Word was God.

and these three are one. (Joh 10:30) I and My Father are one."

- When Jesus was baptized as He came up out of the water, the voice of the Father spoke from heaven saying, (*Luk 3:22*) And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."
- Paul said, (2Co 13:14) The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.
- There is a controversy over verse 7 as to whether or not it was in the original manuscripts or was it added by one who was copying the scriptures later on. Since this verse does not appear in the majority of the manuscripts, there is a question whether or not this is a part of the original manuscripts; however, there is some manuscript evidence that seems to indicate it does, indeed, belong here.
- While the clear statement of the Trinity is made here, it is not necessary for
 it to be included as there are many other passages, that teach the Triunity of
 God. While it may not seem significant to us whether this passage is in the
 majority of manuscripts, we need to be aware that the cults are aware and
 will be quick to refute any references to this verse.
- The Spirit, the water, and the blood: These are all consistent witnesses in telling us who Jesus is. We can know that these three agree as one. It isn't as if the Spirit tells us one thing, the water another, and the blood says something else. Jesus' life, death, and the Spirit all tell us who Jesus is, and they tell us it in agreement.

• The apostle, having told us that the Spirit that bears witness to Christ is truth, shows us that He is so, by assuring us that He is in heaven, and that there are others also who cannot but be true, or truth itself, concurring in testimony with Him.

1Jn 5:8 And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood;

- At the baptism of Jesus, the Father and the Spirit testified to the Son-
- (Mat 3:16-17) When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. [17] And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
- The death of Jesus Christ also witnessed to who He was (*Mat 27:54*) So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, "Truly this was the Son of God!" (*Heb 9:14*) how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
- The Holy Spirit testified throughout Jesus' life about His identity (*Mar 1:12*) Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. (*Luk 1:35*) And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. (*Act 10:38*) how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

and these three agree as one. (Joh 15:26) "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

- The text of *1Jn 5:7-8* could be read: For there are three that bear witness: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.
- They agree in one purpose, that is, the purpose of presenting Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world who shed His blood upon Calvary and paid the penalty for our sins.
- These three bear witness on earth—the Spirit uses the water of the Word and applies the blood for our salvation. These three all agree in one—that is, they want to get you saved and keep you saved.
- The Spirit inside you, the baptism you went through, and the blood shed for you work together as one proof that you truly are a Christian.

1Jn 5:9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; (Joh 5:34) Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. (Joh 5:37) And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. (Joh 8:17-18) It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. [18] I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me." (**Heb 6:13-20**) For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, [14] saying, "SURELY BLESSING I WILL BLESS YOU, AND MULTIPLYING I WILL MULTIPLY YOU." [15] And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. [16] For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. [17] Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, [18] that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. [19] This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, [20] where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. (Mat 3:16-17) When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. [17] And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

- Man's witness is accepted in a court of law A man who can be convicted or exonerated on the testimony of men's witnesses.
- If the witness of man is accepted as true, how much more ought we to accept the witness of God, which is much greater? He can neither be deceived nor deceive, but man may deceive and be deceived. If we believe the information given to us by mere people, how can we not believe the statements made by God?
- "For this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son." God today is not giving out news on every subject. His news is good news, and it is about His son who died for us on the Cross. That is His message.
- We are not to believe with blind faith. Instead, our faith is to be based on reliable testimony. And we have the most reliable testimony possible, *the witness of God*. This is the perfect witness! We ought to believe it!
- For this is the witness, and here is the witness of God even of the Father, as well as of the Word and Spirit, which He has testified of, and wherein he has attested, His Son. God, that cannot lie -- (Tit 1:2) in hope of eternal life

which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, has given sufficient assurance to the world that Jesus Christ is His Son, the Son of His love, and Son by office, to reconcile and recover the world unto Himself; He testified therefore the truth and divine origin of the Christianity, and that it is the sure appointed way and means of bringing us to God.

IJn 5:10 He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; (Rom 8:14-16) For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. [15] For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." [16] The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

- "He that believes on the Son of God has the witness in himself." If you have trusted Christ as your Savior, the Holy Spirit indwells you, and He testifies that these things are true. This is quite wonderful!
- You that believe on the Son of God have the witness in yourself. This is the record that God has given of His Son. The "witness" here referred to is the fruit of all the evidence, external and internal, on the heart, producing a deep conviction of the truth that Jesus is the Son of God.
- The soul has found peace by believing on Him. Troubles and anxieties of the mind on account of sin have been removed by faith in Christ;
- These things constitute a mass of evidence for the truth of the Christian religion, whose force the believer cannot resist, and make the sincere Christian ready to sacrifice anything rather than his belief in *the Son of God*; ready to go to the stake rather than to renounce his Savior! (*1Pe 3:15*) But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. (Joh 3:18) "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (Joh 3:33) He who has received His testimony has certified that God is true.

- When you don't believe God, you add to your other sins by implying that He is a liar. God says, "Trust Christ, and I'll save you." If you say, "I don't need Christ to be saved," then you are calling God a liar.
- God had become a "witness", giving His *testimony* that the Lord Jesus was sent by Him as a Savior, and that to doubt or deny this partook of the same character as doubting or denying any other testimony; that is, it was practically charging Him who bore the testimony with falsehood.

• Rejection of God's testimony over time can lead to a person permanently hardening against God, to the place where they may be one who *blasphemes* against the Holy Spirit, as Jesus warned in (Mar 3:28-29). What hope can there be for the one who persists in hearing what God says, and calling Him a liar?

IJn 5:11 And this is the testimony (the sum or amount of the record): that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. (1Jn 1:2) the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— (Joh 1:4) In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. (Col 3:4) When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. (Joh 5:24) "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. (Joh 11:25-26) Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. [26] And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

- And this is the testimony: Let no man deceive himself here! The great truth to which the Spirit, the water, and the blood bear testimony. That God has given to us eternal life He has provided, through the Savior, the means of obtaining eternal life! (Joh 3:36) He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."
- Joh 17:2-3) as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. [3] And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.
- And this life is in His Son Is treasured up in Him, or is to be obtained through Him. Sorry, Islam. Sorry Watchtower Society. Sorry Salt Lake City. The fact of the matter and God's essential message to man is this: Eternal Life is in the Son. Eternal Life is only in Him; so it is impossible to have it without Him. It is all about Jesus, and living in Jesus is the evidence of eternal life. (Joh 14:6) Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

IJn 5:12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. (Joh 3:15) that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. (Joh 3:36) He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (Joh 6:47) Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.

- Indeed, this is straight! Clear! Concise! Eternal life is only in the Son. God has given us eternal life, but this life is in the Son and he who has the Son has this life but he who has not the Son has not life. He has no hope of eternal life. You have no hope in coming back, being reincarnated and giving another chance to finally make it. God's record! God's witness! The witness of God is greater!
- God has given us the gift of eternal life through His Son We cannot have the gift without accepting the Son. This is God's record. Any religious leader who tells you that you can have eternal life without Jesus Christ is speaking against what God has said.
- The witness of man is saying, All roads lead to God. God will honor your sincerity and that's the important thing. Jesus is not the only way, there are many ways. That's the witness of man. Unfortunately, sadly, tragically, people often listen to the witness and believe the witness of man. That if you're just good and you're just sincere, God will surely receive you. And it's interesting to me how that so oftentimes when horribly wicked people die, as they give the eulogies and all, they see them up in heaven and all. How deceived! "He that does not have the Son does not have life!"
- That is God's witness, which must be believed over that of the witness of man.
- The question for each of us is: **Do you have Christ? Is He your Savior? Are you trusting Him** in such a way **that no one on earth or in heaven can shake your confidence in Him?** If you haven't come to that point, you haven't come at all. To be saved means you trust Christ, and it means you have Christ as your Savior. "He that has the Son has life." He's our lifeboat. He's our lifeline. He's our only hope. We are lost without Him, but if we have Him, we have Eternal life!
- He who does not have the Son of God does not have life." It can't be made any clearer than that? Let's forget about religion, all kinds of Christian gimmicks. The important thing is: Do you have Christ? Is He your Savior?
- This is the reason that Jesus is so emphasized as the Son of God. He is wonderful. He is God manifest in the flesh. **He is the only One who can save us. He is absolutely unique.** There is no one else like Him. He's the only begotten Son of God. He died upon the Cross **because He alone** could pay the penalty for our sins. He rose again, and He is living right this moment at God's right hand for us. He is the living Christ.
- Do you have Him today as your Savior? That is the only question you need to answer. If you have Him, you have life—you are saved. That is the Testimony. Do you believe God, or don't you believe God? If you don't believe Him, you make Him a liar.

• You cannot miss this. The only thing right now that will keep you from coming to Christ is the sin in your life that you don't want to give up. That is the only thing in the world which will stop you. That is the decision you make.

That You May Know

1In 5:13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know (without any doubt) that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

- John presents this that we may know we have eternal life. We can know, with Christian certainty, beyond any shadow of doubt we have eternal life based entirely on the fact to which God Himself has borne witness. Eternal life is in Jesus Christ alone. There is no life outside of Him!
- Also, we may believe in the name of the Son of God. (Act 4:12) Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."
- Some people believe that you cannot have assurance of your salvation until you die. What a horrible time to find out! I don't want to wait until I die. I need the assurance now. (Rom 8:16) The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
- The witness of God within my heart. John said, These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.
- Our faith does not save us, Jesus does. When we come to Him believing all God has said about Him we can know we have eternal life and can continue to believe in Him forever!
- What is God's testimony? This is it! Two things! That you might believe on Jesus Christ and that you might have assurance that you are saved!
- When John wrote his gospel, there at the end of the gospel he said, (*Joh 20:31*) but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.
- John always had a purpose in writing the gospels, writing his letters, and the purpose was to bring to you a faith, a belief that Jesus was God's promised Messiah and was the Son of God!
- Having this assurance of eternal life will do something for our Christian life here and now—

- In stating the message so plainly, John hopes to persuade us to believe. Even if we already believe, he wants us to *know that you have eternal life*, so we can have this assurance, and so *that you may continue to believe*.
- The need to hear the simple gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ does not end once one embraces the gospel. We benefit by it, are assured by it, and are helped to continue in it as we hear it and embrace it over and over again.
- *That you may know that you have eternal life:* John's confidence is impressive. He wants us **to** *know* **that** we **have** *eternal life.* We can only *know* this if our salvation rests in Jesus and not in our own performance.
- Are you sure that you have eternal life through your faith in Jesus the Christ, the Son of God?

Closing Prayer:

SUMMARY- Benefits/Application:

Obedience By Faith - Chapter 5:6-13

Self-examination Questions:

- Do I understand the witness, the testimonies that have been given to us in the Bible of: God the Father; God the Son and God the Holy Spirit?
- How sure am I that I'm saved? How can the verses in today's study be used to remove all doubts for us as well as for others?

Suggestions for the Coming Week:

To Maximize Your growth by the study of His Word and drawing yourself closer to Him.

Be a Berean! Act 17:11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

- Read the entire Epistle of 1 John each day (takes 15 min to read the 105 verses in the 5 chapters)
- Study carefully Chapter 5:14-17. How does this change one's prayer life? The "death" in verses 16-17 is Eternal death.

1.In 5:14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

1In 5:15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

1.In 5:16 If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to (eternal) death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to (eternal) death. There is sin leading to (eternal) death. I do not say that he should pray about that.

1In 5:17 All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not leading to (eternal) death.

- Notes and audio of previous studies are on www.ptwente.com
- If you're not getting weekly email regarding the meetings and want to receive, please email me so you can be added!
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