

1Jn 16 – **Disciples Have More Assurance – 1Jn 5:13-21**

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Well – today - - - in **16 Msg's**
we **come to the close** of 1John

This book has really **been a hand-full** for me to teach

& I believe we **HAVE SEEN** –
what we came here to **SEE**

That is – the True **MARKS** (signs) –
of a **Disciple** of Jesus Christ

We've seen them **clearly**
Sometimes (it seems) we've seen them a little **too clearly**

But it has been – ***really, really, good for us*** - hasn't it ??

Thank you for going thru this book with me
I pray you've been as **Blessed** (& challenged) as I have been

1John has actually been about **ASSURANCE** - -
The Assurance we can have - as ***children of God***

& so – as John closes his letter
he is going to **Rapid-Fire** some serious **ASSURANCE**

Assurance – that we **MUST** cling to – as believers

7 times in 9 Vs's – we're going to read the word **KNOW**
as in **WE KNOW**, or we **CAN KNOW**

& we start today – with the **THEME** Vs – of the entire book

So - Let's Pray

Again - John is **Rapid-Firing ASSURANCE** to us
in these final verses

It's **kinda like me** – when I've tried
to teach too much in one message

at the end I try to **review** everything I can
& get in all the **final points** I can – before my time runs out

That's the feeling I get from John
as he closes this powerful epistle

In 9 Vs's – John Rapid-Fires **FIVE Great Assurances**
& I could've added a few "**sub-assurances**" too

Here are the **FIVE** main – Rapid-Fire **ASSURANCES**
That 1John gives us – as we close

- 1) We have ASSURANCE of **Eternal Life** (v.13)
- 2) We have ASSURANCE in **Prayer** (v.14-17)
- 3) We have ASSURANCE of **Protection** (v.18)
- 4) We have ASSURANCE of our **Origin** (v.19)
- 5) We have ASSURANCE that we **KNOW Him** (v.20)

Man – those are some **Great Assurances**

#1) We have ASSURANCE of Eternal Life

The **THEME** Vs – of the entire book

1Jn 5:13 - ESV

13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life.

This is John's **PURPOSE** Statement for the Letter
*This is **WHY** he is writing*

That we may **KNOW** – that we may have **ASSURANCE**
That we **HAVE** (permanently possess) Eternal Life

This word **KNOW** – is GK **OIDA**
It is used for **Positive, Absolute Knowledge**

The word HAVE –
implies a **Permanent Relational Possession**

So we can paraphrase this phrase as;
***That you may have Positive, Absolute Knowledge
that you have a Permanent Relational Possession
of Eternal Life***

Guys – if we Truly **BELIEVE** in the **NAME** of the Son of God
We can **KNOW** that we have Eternal Life

BELIEVE means – put your full faith & trust in
NAME means – the full character & nature

***So – if we put our full faith & trust in - the full character & nature
of Jesus Christ – Then we can have Positive, Absolute Knowledge
that we have a Permanent Relational Possession of Eternal Life***

& THAT – is Great Confidence & Great Assurance – Isn't it ?

& since we have the great assurance
of that ***Permanent Relational Possession of Eternal Life***

THEN we can ALSO have assurance
that God hears us when we pray - &
that God delights to do what's best for us

#1) was - We have ASSURANCE of Eternal Life

#2) We have ASSURANCE in Prayer (v.14-17)

In Vs' 14 to 17 – we actually have
TWO “***Double Edged Sword***” truths about prayer

Meaning we have two wonderful truths
each with a qualification (caveat)

In Vs' 14 & 15 – the Truth is
we can KNOW that if God “hears” our prayers,
we will HAVE what we request of Him

The CAVEAT (qualification) is –
we must ask according to His will

1Jn 5:14-15 – ESV → →

1Jn 5:14-15 - ESV

14 And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.

15 And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

We can have absolute **CONFIDENCE**
that IF we ask anything **ACCORDING** to His will
God will "**HEAR**" **US** !!

& IF God "**HEARS**" us – He will certainly respond
By meeting the requests we've made

BUT - - What does that mean – that God "**HEARS**" us ?

Have you ever had someone tell you
that you have "**Selective Hearing**"

***I think I've been accused of that
But I'm not sure - cause I wasn't really LISTENING***

Well - God has **some type** of selective hearing
but it's not hearing, as in the **PHYSICAL** meaning of the word

like all **GK words** (& English words)
There are **different** meanings to the word **HEAR**

& in **v.14** when it says –
if we ask anything according to his will he HEARS us

The best definition of the word **HEAR** is –
to attend to, or consider what has been said

Kinda like when someone asks you to do something,
& you say *"I hear ya, I got cha"*
I'll handle it – I'll take care of it

Next – (accrdg to V.14) What is the requirement
For God to HEAR us ?

We must ask ACCORDING to His will, right?

Doesn't that simplify things SO MUCH for us ??

ALL we have to do is Ask According to His Will
& we can KNOW that God will HEAR & RESPOND

Hmmm . . . all we have to do is ask ACCORDING to His Will
maybe that's NOT so easy after all

If all we have to do is ask according to God's Will
Then the question has to be – *HOW do we do that ??*

You know – as a Father – one of the greatest blessings there is
is to know that my kids trust me to do what's best for them

when I sense that they trust me to do what's best for them
I'm anxious to do it – I can't wait to do it

when they say Dad, here's my situation
& I know you'll do what's best for me – Man, I LOVE that

Imagine how much God must love it

when we say - - *Heavenly Father* – here's my situation,
here's my concern, here's my fear

& I **trust you completely** with whatever **YOU** decide to do in my life re: this situation

When Jesus taught us how to pray in Mat Ch 6 – He said
Pray that God's **Kingdom** (His presence) would come
& Pray that God's **Will** would be done

THAT is a great way to pray - - which is the purpose of the **LORD'S Prayer** in **Mat 6** – ***to TEACH us how to pray***

Another Great way to **KNOW** that you're **ASKING** according to God's Will . . .

Is to actually **Pray God's WORD** for your life

This is **one** of the most **powerful things** we've been teaching in **discipleship training**

& **every person** who's taken a hold of it, has been greatly **blessed** by it

So – let me **demonstrate** it (again) for you
Turn over to **Prov 3:5-8** (**Dani's** life verse)

I'm going to pray thru **Prov 3:5-8**

& you follow along with me in your Bible

Prov 3:5-8 – ESV

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.

8 It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

I promise you – if you will
pray God's Word (in context) for your life

I promise you, you will **Asking** according to God's Will
& God will **hear** you, and He will **respond**

But remember – you can't pray **OUT** of Context

You **CAN'T Pray**
*Lord give me a **thousand WIVES** like Solomon*

or - *make me the **Richest man** like Solomon*
That's **NOT** what I'm talking about

I'm **talking about** finding a scripture
that's applicable to your life

then praying that scripture **FOR** your life
knowing that you are praying - according to God's will

AMEN ??

OK – Moving on

Remember – I said there were **TWO SETS**
of “***Double Edged***” Truths here ??

the 2nd one is in **vs’s 16-17**

the **Truth** in these vs’s is

Our **intercessory prayers** for another believer
can have a **LIFE SAVING impact** on that believer

& **THAT** – is really the point here

The **CAVEAT** (stipulation), (other side of the sword) is

there is sin, for a believer, that **leads to death**
& that makes this - a very serious matter

1Jn 5:16 - ESV

16 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that.

EXCUSE ME ?? - I was following you
right up to the “***Sin that Leads to Death Part***”

OK – let’s remember – the point here is

If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life

The **MAIN point** of this assurance is

ANSWERED **intercessory prayer** for another believer

& so we **REALLY** need to be praying for one another
That God would give that fellow believer – LIFE !!

But let's talk – briefly – about this
Sin that leads to death

& Let's make one thing clear . . .

Ultimately – **ALL sin** that is not paid for by blood of Christ
leads to death right?

Rom 6:23 = *the wages of sin is death*

But that's NOT what John is referring to here

John is clearly laying out 2 Categories of sin

Sin that **DOES NOT** lead to death

& Sin that **DOES** lead to death

& the word "**Brother**" in V.16 – always refers to a **BELIEVER**
So He's talking about sin *in a BELIEVER'S life*

Now – **Good Bible Scholars** are Divided
on the **SPECIFICS** of what John is referring to here

What we **DO** know is - John is almost **FOR SURE**
NOT referring to a **SINGLE, SPECIFIC** Sin

but instead to a **STATE** of sin – or a **CONDITION** of sin

So he says - there is a **STATE** – **A CONDITION** of sin
that a **believer** can get into – **that leads to death**

& we have some good **Biblical examples**
of **Believer's** sin leading to their **Physical Death**

But the **Best Lesson** to understand here is
the KIND of sin that John is referring to – (so we can *AVOID* it)

John is almost for sure – referring to
a **Settled, Prolonged state of sin**

James MacDonald describes it as – ***Prolonged, repeated,
unrepentant grievous sin in the life of the believer***

Now – **I'm not sure** of the “specifics” of the “death”
John is referring to

But I know **THIS** . . .
I DON'T WANT TO END UP THERE !!!!

As a **Believer** – if you are in
Prolonged, repeated, unrepentant grievous sin

then you need to be **VERY AFRAID**

Because **God's Word** is saying - **THAT** “State” of Sin
Is leading **YOU** to Some Kind of Death

So – let's not “**Nit-Pick**” over the details of what this means
Let's just make sure we **DON'T** end up there !!!

& John's **real point** seems to be -
when a believer gets to this point . . .

We need to **BACK AWAY** - & Let God Handle it
& it's probably **NOT** going to be very **pretty**

& then – **just to make sure** we don't start thinking that the “small” sins are OK – we read in **V.17**

1Jn 5:17 – ESV

17 All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

ALL sin is damaging – but there is an “***Increased Consequence***” when a Believers heart becomes **HARDENED** to his sin

MOVING ON – & Continuing **FROM V. 17**

Now we start with the **SERIOUS** Assurance

Vs's 18-19-20 ALL start

with the Confident words – **WE KNOW !**

#1) was - We have ASSURANCE of Eternal Life

#2) We have ASSURANCE in Prayer

#3) We have ASSURANCE of Protection (v.18)

1Jn 5:18 - ESV

18 We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

OK – I have to do **some more clarifying** of the **KJV** / **NKJV**
(similar to last week in V.7)

But let me say – I have **NOTHING** against the **KJV** or the **NKJV**
It just needs “**clarification**” for us to be able to understand it

So - **NKJV** says (v.18)

We know that whoever is born of God does not sin;

The clarification is - the **GK** is **NOT** referring to a single sin
But to a ***“Continual State of Sinning”***

& so the **ESV** says - ***everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning***

& **WHY** Is it ? – that a person who has been born of God
DOES NOT keep on sinning??

Because the **Act of Faith** that **Saves** you
is the same **Act of Faith** that **begins your Transformation**

Salvation - & the **Beginning of Transformation**
Come Simultaneously !!

In one single Act of **FAITH**

So – if you **don't see** the beginning
of **ANY** transformation in your life at all

then **I say to** you (in love) - - -
you **REALLY** need to get **BORN AGAIN**

So that the **life of Jesus**
begins to replace – your **life of sin** – - AMEN?

OK – let’s re-read **v.18** again

& we’ll see - **the Assurance of our PROTECTION**

1Jn 5:18 - ESV

18 We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

Ok more little more “**Clarification**” for the NKJ’s

The GK word translated “**WAS BORN**” of God in **ESV**

Is what is called **Singlar, Aorist**

Which **means** it happened to **ONE PERSON**

as a Finished work - in the past

So – Who is the **ONLY One BEGOTTEN** of God ?? – **JESUS**

It’s kind of a **play on words** here – but John is saying

That **Jesus** - Protects us who are born of God

& the evil one does not touch us

The NLT really Nails this verse !!

1Jn 5:18 – NLT

18 We know that God’s children do not make a practice of sinning, for God’s Son holds them securely, and the evil one cannot touch them.

So – if you’re looking at a **KJV** or a **NKJV**

You **really need** this “**Clarification**” in order to understand this vs.

OK – What's the point ??

As God's children – we are not making a practice of sinning

& God's Son – Jesus Christ – is holding us so securely
that the evil one **CANNOT** touch us

As God's children – we have ASSURANCE of Protection
from the evil one

But listen – there is a Caveat (Condition) here **ALSO**

v.18 says – We **DO NOT** make a practice of sinning
& Jesus will Protect you from the Evil One –

do you see the condition??

& it's the same one found in Jas 4:7

In Jas 4:7 – we read – ESV

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

In **BOTH** Vs's – there is a **CONDITION**
to not get taken out by the Devil

1Jn 5:18 – do not make a practice of sinning –
& Jesus Christ will protect you

Jas 4:7 – Submit to God, Resist the Devil –
& he will flee from you

So – We have a **ROLE**
In **God's Protection** of us – right?

OK - Remember – John is **Rapid-Firing ASSURANCES** to us
as he closes the letter

& so his next one is

#4) We have ASSURANCE of our Origin (v.19)

1Jn 5:19 - ESV

19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

We know that we are from God

which means - we are **NOT from**
the world that lies in the power of the evil one

We are **NOT OF THIS WORLD**
& that is very, very good news

Because this world absolutely lies
in the **power of the EVIL ONE**

He's the one "***pulling the strings***" of this world

But **WE** are just passin thru
on our way to our ***permanent home*** in ***HEAVEN***

So ***We*** can be **IN** this world (just passing thru)
without being **OF** this world – because we are **citizens** of Heaven

& **THAT** is Great **ASSURANCE** - & should give us **PEACE**

OK – now John saves the **BEST** for last

#5) We have ASSURANCE that we KNOW Him (v.20)

20 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. He is the true God and eternal life.

THIS – is really a **very COOL Vs**

In **ALL** of these **last THREE** Vs's (18-19-20)
we read the words "**WE KNOW**" at the beginning

& all three times – the **word KNOW** - is the GK - **Oida**
Which is the word used for "***positive, absolute knowledge***"

& so in these Vs's – we HAVE ***Positive, Absolute Knowledge***, OF:

- 1) Our **Protection** (v.18)
- 2) Our **Origin** (v.19) - & now
- 3) we have Positive, Absolute Knowledge – that we may **Know Him**

Now – this is **where** it gets **COOL**
Let's read vs 20 again

20 And we know (have positive absolute knowledge) **that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know (ginosko = intimate, personal knowledge) **him who is true****

THAT brought **tears to my eyes** the first time I saw it !!!

[READ AGAIN WITH DEFINITIONS]

That is a very **COOL verse**

& it **continues** with just as much power in the **2nd half**

20 . . . and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

John just **BUILDS** to this **CRESCENDO** of Assurance

& at about this point – is where you SHOUT

Praise the Lord – or ***AMEN*** – or ***Something*** . . .

We **KNOW** (have positive absolute knowledge)

That we **MAY KNOW** (have intimate, personal knowledge) . . .

Of the Only True God - & Jesus Christ our Savior, & LORD

& – This **intimate personal knowledge** of God

IS – our eternal Life

Man – THAT is GOOD !!

Be **CONFIDENT**

Be **SURE**

Be at **PEACE**

So – there are our **5 Rapid Fire Assurances:**

1) We have ASSURANCE of **Eternal Life** (v.13)

2) We have ASSURANCE in **Prayer** (v.14-17)

3) We have ASSURANCE of **Protection** (v.18)

4) We have ASSURANCE of our **Origin** (v.19)

5) We have ASSURANCE that we **KNOW Him** (v.20)

& now – after **16 rockin messages**
The Apostle John closes His letter

not with pleasantries & niceties
But in **classic straight-forward**, 1John fashion

1Jn 5:21 - ESV
21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

After **ALL** we've learned in **1Jn**

So **MUCH** training – about what it **LOOKS LIKE**
to be a disciple of Jesus Christ

NOT what it looks like - **Perfectly**
BUT what it should look like - **Progressively**

After **ALL** that – John closes with a **Grand Finale**

keep yourselves from idols

It means – Have **NO OTHER GOD'S** in your life

Because you **can't live the life** that 1John has spelled out
If you're worshipping some other god

In Exo 20 - The **First Commandment** is
You shall have no other gods before me

In Mat 22 - The **Greatest Commandment** is
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. (Mat 22:37)

& **1John closes** with that exact same thought

& **the NLT** puts it in **language** we can **TAKE HOME** with us

1Jn 5:21 – NLT

21 Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts.

Let's Pray