



1 John 5:13-21 - Certain Assurance.

ADAM LONG

| Week of April 21st, 2019 - Easter Celebration Service

On this Easter Sunday we Celebrate the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. There is **certain assurance** found in the resurrection. John closes his letter by looking at five other **assurances**.

SERMON TEXT // 1 John 5:13-21 English Standard Version

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. ¹⁶If 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. ¹⁷All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death. ¹⁸We 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. ¹⁹We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. ²⁰And 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. ²¹Little children, keep yourselves from idols. (ESV)

SERMON OUTLINE //

Seven times in these nine verses John uses the word **know**. He ends this letter with what he wants the readers to know but also what God wants every believer to know as well. The five truths of assurance John points to here at the end of his letter are simple: **life, answers, victory, acceptance, and certainty**.

1. Assurance of **Life**. (v.13) - Believers have a new, eternal, life in Jesus. (John 10:10-11)
2. Assurance of **Answers**. (v.14-15) - John says that we will find answers to our prayers. But this promise is conditional: that we ask according to His will. (Matthew 6:10; Mark 14:36) Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance. It is laying hold of His willingness.
3. Assurance of **Victory**. (v.16-18) - John points to two types of sin: sin that does not lead to spiritual death and sin that leads to spiritual death. All wrongdoing is sin (v.17) He is contrasting the sin of a believer trusting Jesus and the habitual sin of someone who is not trusting in Jesus.
4. Assurance of **Acceptance**. (v.19) - The assurance of acceptance is simple: Believers belong to God because God wants us - He does not need us - but He wants us. THAT is acceptance!
5. Assurance of **Certainty**. (v.20-21) - we can be assured there is certainty in the person and work of Jesus because He is truth. Certainty keeps our eyes on God and off of idols around us. Every believer has the certainty for **assurance** because He is Risen! He is risen indeed!



Discussion Questions - Certain Assurance.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

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Question 1

What was something you wrote down or a truth that resonated with you from listening to the sermon, looking at the overview, or even in reading this closing text in 1st John 5?

Our sermon series in 1st John was entitled: **That You May Know**. Throughout his letter to the church, John is deliberate to point them to several things the church and should **know**:

- We can know that **we know God** (2:3; 13, 14; 4:7)
- We can know that **we are in God** (2:5)
- We can know that **it is the last hour** (2:18)
- We can know **the truth** (2:21; 3:19)
- We can know that **Jesus is righteous** (2:29)
- We can know that **we will be like Jesus** (3:2)
- We can know that **Jesus came to take away sins** (3:5)
- We can know that **Jesus is sinless** (3:5)
- We can know that **we have passed out of death into life** (3:14)
- We can know that **no murderer has eternal life** (3:15)
- We can know **love** (3:16; 4:16)
- We can know that **God abides in us** (3:24; 4:13)
- We can know **the Spirit of God** (4:2)
- We can know the **Spirit of truth and the spirit of deception** (4:6)
- We can know that **we love God's children** (5:2)
- We can know that **we have eternal life** (5:13)
- We can know that **God answers prayers** (5:15)
- We can know that **we have victory over sin in Jesus** (5:18)
- We can know that **we belong to God** (5:19)
- We can know that **the Son of God has come** (5:20)
- We can know that **the Son of God has given us understanding and certainty** (5:20)
- We can know **Him who is true** (5:20)

Question 2

After a quick glance at this exhaustive list from First John, **which truths are the most clear examples of God's grace to you? Which are the hardest for you to wrap your mind around and believe?** Briefly share your thoughts with the group - be open and transparent as you do.

Question 3

In John 10:10-11 Jesus says that He has come to give us life and give it abundantly. **What would you say is in an abundance in your life right now, good or bad?** Share as a group and take note of how you can be praying for one another - **pray for assurance in God's abundance.**