

**Passage:** 1 John 5:1-21

**Title:** The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that is Ours as Believers

**Summary:** The word “confidence” means fearless freedom, and in our study today we will see we as Believers can have confidence, fearless freedom, to overcome all things, believe and live as Jesus says we can, that God hears our prayers, and that Jesus keeps us! A powerful, and freeing passage of Scripture indeed. Join Us!

**1 John 5 (NKJV)** <sup>1</sup> Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. <sup>2</sup> By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. <sup>3</sup> For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup> For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup> Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup> This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. <sup>7</sup> For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. <sup>8</sup> And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one. <sup>9</sup> If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. <sup>10</sup> He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; 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. <sup>11</sup> And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup> He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. <sup>15</sup> And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. <sup>16</sup> If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin *which does not lead* to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not *leading* to death. There is sin *leading* to death. I do not say that he should pray about that. <sup>17</sup> All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not *leading* to death. <sup>18</sup> We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. <sup>19</sup> We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway* of the wicked one. <sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, 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. <sup>21</sup> Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

### **Written To:**

#### **Written to Christians of All Maturity / Children – Young Men - Fathers**

This book we will see is written for Christians of all ages. Christians at varying levels of spiritual growth, children, young men, and fathers; it is written to all.

*(1 John 2:12 NKJV) I write to you, little children, Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.*

*(1 John 2:13 NKJV) I write to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, Because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, little children, Because you have known the Father.*

*(1 John 2:14 NKJV) I have written to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one.*

#### **Each Stage – Deeper Understanding / Read Regularly / Stay School / God's Light – Love – Life**

As I grow, from a child to a young man, to a father, then this Book will take on a deeper meaning and understanding at each stage in my spiritual growth, therefore I need to read this Book on a regular basis. This is a great book for spiritual growth, for Christian maturity, stay in school and watch what God will do in your life; God takes His Light and will shine it on areas of our heart and say, “where are you at in this area”. God will take His Love, and pour it out upon us and say, “you are my child” and this is how I want you to love, as I love. And throughout the book God will show us where Life is, it is in Him, so that we may know eternal life, and our joy may be full (v.4). Thus the Simple Outline of this Book.

### **Simple Outline of 1 John**

God is Light – (Chapter 1-2)

God is Love – (Chapter 3-4)

God is Life – (Chapter 5)

### **Written By:**

#### **Writings – Pastored Ephesus / Around 90AD**

John wrote this epistle, as all early church writings agree upon. Early Church writings also say that John served as pastor of the church in Ephesus, which was founded by Paul (Acts 18-19). The writing of this epistle is dated somewhere around 90-100AD. John himself is close to 90 to 100 years old.

### **What's Going On in Ephesus:**

#### **To Understand Epistle / Like Today / 4 Factors Going On**

To understand the First Epistle of John we must know something about the city of Ephesus. It was very much like your city or hometown today. There were four important factors which prevailed in Ephesus and throughout the Roman world at the time of this writing:

### **60 Years after Cross / Children – Grandchildren / Newness Worn off / Jesus Warns them in Rev 2**

1.) There was an easy familiarity with Christianity. It is now about 60-70 years after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Many of the believers were children and grandchildren of the first Christians. The new and bright sheen of the Christian faith had become tarnished. The newness had worn off. The thrill and glory of the first days had faded. The Ephesians' devotion and dedication to Christ was fading. The Lord Jesus sent a letter to the Ephesian believers through John while he was in exile on the Island of Patmos, He said:

*(Revelation 2:1 NKJV) "To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:*

*(Revelation 2:2 NKJV) "I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars;*

*(Revelation 2:3 NKJV) "and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary.*

*(Revelation 2:4 NKJV) "Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.*

*(Revelation 2:5 NKJV) "Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place; unless you repent.*

### **Early Christians Different / Just Blending In**

2.) The high standards of Christianity made the early Christians different, but the children and grandchildren of the first Christians did not want to be different. They pretty much were just blending in with the rest of the world around them. It is easy for us to fall into both these areas as Christians in the year 2005.

### **Not Persecution Outside – Seduction Inside / False Teachers / Attempt to Improve It - Respect**

3.) Persecution was going on around them and against them, but the greatest danger to the Ephesian church was not persecution from the outside but seduction from the inside, by false teachers. Christianity was not in danger of being destroyed; it was in danger of being changed. The attempt was being made to improve it, give it intellectual respectability, and let it speak in the terms of the popular philosophy of its day, to make it more palatable to the world around them. We see it in many churches today where you will hear more of man's philosophy from the pulpit than you will hear the Word of God.

### **Gnosticism / Gnosis – to Know / False Teachers – Super Knowledge / Had to Follow Them**

4.) Gnosticism was the real enemy of Christianity, and it still is today. Gnosticism was the basic philosophy of the Roman Empire. Gnosticism came from the Greek word, "Gnosis" which means "to Know". These false teachers of the day claimed that they had "super knowledge" a special revelation from God, and that the people needed to come hear what it was, and if they didn't follow it, they would not receive eternal life. They taught things like Jesus really didn't come in the flesh but was just a spirit, like a phantom, didn't leave footprints when He walked in the sand. They taught that you can do whatever you want with your body, it didn't matter for the body was evil, only the spirit mattered, all you had to do was profess with your mouth and you were saved. Not much has changed in 2000 years with Eastern mysticism, the New Age Movement, and of course as I call it- Easy Believism, doesn't matter what you do, just what you say.

### **So He Writes:**

#### **Theme:**

#### **That Your Joy may be Full:**

*(1 John 1:4 NKJV) And **these things we write to you** that your joy may be full.*

#### **That You may not Sin / When you Do Sin**

*(1 John 2:1 NKJV) My little children, **these things I write to you**, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

#### **That You may not be Deceived**

*(1 John 2:26 NKJV) **These things I have written to you** concerning those who try to deceive you.*

## **That You may know you have Eternal Life**

*(1 John 5:13 NKJV) 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.*

### **He Writes / Kindle - Shake – Contrasts/Standard - False Doctrine**

In his themes we see:

- He writes to kindle the flame of those whose love was waxing cold.
- He writes to shake up the Christians who were trying to just blend in with the world around them.
- He will write, using many contrasts, so that there will be no "middle ground" to stand on. Every one will see and know what God's standard is.
- He writes to correct the false teachings and errant doctrine that was confusing the people; a doctrine that was leading some to damnation, and others to wonder if they had salvation or not.

### **Robbery / Not just to Know Theologically – Profess / to Experience – Light, Love, Life**

All these things will rob a person of experiencing all God has for them. John (inspired of God) doesn't just want us to know God theologically, or just by profession, but to experience Him. To experience His Light, His Love, and His Life. John wants us to have the same experience with Jesus as He did.

### **John wants us to Experience God / To Walk – Talk - Hear**

John writes to us that we might experience God, just as he did as he walked with the Lord, talked to the Lord, and heard from the Lord.

*(1 John 1:1 NKJV) That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life;*

*(1 John 1:2 NKJV) 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;*

*(1 John 1:3 NKJV) 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.*

*(1 John 1:4 NKJV) And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.*

### **Experience His Light / Experience His Love**

John wants us to experience God by walking in the Light (chapters 1&2), for God is Light and in Him there is no darkness at all; John wants us experiencing God's Love, a love that is perfect, a love that is pure (chapters 3-4).

### **Chapter 5 / You may know you have Eternal Life**

Now chapter 5 God wants us to experience Life, Eternal Life, an abundant Life, and that life can only be found in the Son:

*(1 John 5:13 NKJV) 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.*

#### Outline - The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Is Ours as Believers (Chapter 5:1-21):

- The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) to Overcome All Things (1 John 5:1-5)
- The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) of God's Witness of Who He Is (1 John 5:6-13)
- The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that God Hears our Prayers (1 John 5:14-17)
- The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Jesus Keeps Us (1 John 5:18-21)

### **Prayer**

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

*Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

### **In Every Study**

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

*Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*

### **Outline - The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Is Ours as Believers (Chapter 5:1-21):**

- **The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) to Overcome All Things (1 John 5:1-5)**

All who have received Eternal Life can have the confidence to overcome and live a victorious Christian life because of He who lives inside of them.

**(1 John 5:1 NKJV) Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.**

### **Where Life Begins / Definition of Life – Cleansed and Forgiven**

*Verse 1a - Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God* - This is where life begins, when a person sees God's goodness, and His love for them, and believes He is life. He is born again, new life, and it is a beautiful thing to watch before our eyes. God's definition of life, that we might live through Him. Not the lifestyle of the rich and famous, but the cleansed and forgiven

### **Jesus is the Christ**

The Cerinthian Gnostics denied the identity of Jesus and the Christ. That is, they denied that the individual whom the Christian Church knew by the name "Jesus" was also the Christ. The word "Christ" is the English spelling of the Greek word christos (χριστος) which means "the anointed one." But the predicted Anointed One was to be God-incarnate, virgin-born into the human race. Thus, the incarnation is in view here. But this belief is not a mere intellectual assent to the fact of the incarnation, but a heart acceptance of all that it implied in its purpose, the substitutionary death of the Incarnate One for sinners, thus making a way of salvation in which God could bestow mercy on the basis of justice satisfied. That person, John says, and he uses the perfect tense here, has been born of God and as a result is a child of God. "Him that begot" is God. "Him that is begotten of Him" is the child of God. John says therefore that the person who loves God as his Father also loves God's children because of the fact of the family relationship, that of having a common Father and that of sustaining the relationship with other believers, that of children in the same family. (Wuest)

### **Father & Son same Level / Dome of the Rock**

*Verse 1b - and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.* - Everyone who loves the Father will also love the Son, who is sent by the Father, the only begotten:

*(John 3:16 NKJV) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

It is the spirit of antichrist that says, "I love God, but the Son is on a different level." Many people profess to love the Father, but reject the Son. The Jewish people for the most part rejected him as Messiah. Go to the Dome of the Rock there in Israel (on the Temple Mount) and there in the inscription of the dome in Arabic it says, "God is not begotten, not does He begot". That mosque constructed in the 600AD in honor of Allah, and it is the said place that Abraham offered up Ishmael, not Isaac (thus they say Jews have no right to the land), but the inscription is clearly denouncing Jesus as the Son of God. All roads do not lead to God's salvation. One way, Jesus Christ.

**(1 John 5:2 NKJV) By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.**

**(1 John 5:3 NKJV) For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.**

### **To Keep**

The word

- "keep" is tēreō (τηρεω), "to attend to carefully, to take care of, to guard, observe." The word in this connection speaks of a watchful, solicitous guarding and care of God's commandments lest we

disobey them, with the thought that we are concerned with His honor and glory and our Christian testimony to the same. It is a jealous safe-keeping of His commandments lest they be violated.

- The words “love” (second occurrence) and “keep” are in the present subjunctive, speaking of continuous action. (Wuest)

### **Commandments – God & Neighbor**

What are the commandments as we have studied:

*(Matthew 22:36 NKJV) "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?"*

*(Matthew 22:37 NKJV) Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind."*

*(Matthew 22:38 NKJV) "This is the first and great commandment.*

*(Matthew 22:39 NKJV) "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'*

*(Matthew 22:40 NKJV) "On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."*

### **Not Burdensome – Actually Freedom**

Love God, and love people. That isn't burdensome, in actuality it is freedom.

### **When Realize for Protection / Kids Diet – Based on Our Wisdom / See the Future**

God's commandments are not burdensome when you realize they are for our protection and provision.

Again God calls sin, sin, because He hates what sin does to us. Sin hurts us, it harms us, it puts us in bondage and robs us of peace and joy in our lives. In our homes we have commandments for our son, those commandments are based upon our wisdom of knowing better than a child. Our son would live on a chip and dip diet, that he would enjoy but would stunt his growth, and lead to health problems. Our commandments are for his benefit, and they over-ride what he may want. We have wisdom and can see the future because we have lived the future. How much more so does God know our future.

### **Back in the Garden**

Back in the garden there was one commandment:

*(Genesis 2:16 NKJV) And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;*

*(Genesis 2:17 NKJV) "but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*

### **1 Command – Illustration of All / When Break Leave My Protection**

That one command is the picture and illustration of all commandments, for when you break this command you leave My protection and My provision, and hurt and harm come upon you. For the day you eat of it surely you shall die:

### **Just as He Said / Realize for Protection – Abundant Life**

Just as He said it would, it did, and so too with all the commands today. When a person can realize what we studied last week, God is love, and that He ever wants for us is to experience that love, to protect us from harm as a Father, to give us life more abundant, then we see His commandments are not burdensome.

### **Not Burdensome / But Freeing / Next Verse**

Love God, and love people. That isn't burdensome, in actuality it is freedom. Look at the next verse.

### **Because We Love God**

In the expression “the love of God,” we have the objective genitive, in which the noun in the genitive case (God), receives the action of the noun of action (love). Thus, we are to understand that John means “the love for God.” That is, the saint's love for God is shown by his keeping His commandments. This should be the motivating factor in our keeping God's Word, our love for Him. This love is agapē (ἀγάπη), that divine love produced in the heart of the yielded saint by the Holy Spirit, which love impels us to obey Him. “Grievous” is “heavy.” The word speaks of that which is burdensome, severe, stern, violent, cruel, unsparing. Love for God makes the keeping of His commandments a delight rather than a burden.

**(1 John 5:4 NKJV) For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world; our faith.**

## **(1 John 5:5 NKJV) Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?**

### **Overcome / Victory**

The reason why God's commandments are not burdensome is that obedience to them enables the saint to overcome the world

"Overcometh" is nikaō (νικάω), "to carry off the victory, come off victorious." The verb implies a battle. Here the forces of the world-system of evil, the flesh (totally depraved nature), the devil, and the pernicious age-system (zeitgeist German) with which the saint is surrounded, are all engaged in a battle against the saint, carrying on an incessant warfare, the purpose of which is to ruin his Christian life and testimony. The verb is in the present tense, "is constantly overcoming the world." It is a habit of life with the saint to gain victory over the world. To go down in defeat is the exception, not the rule. (Wuest)

In the expression, "This is the victory that overcometh," the verbal form is an aorist participle, literally, "This is the victory that overcame the world"; as Smith says, "St. John says first, 'is conquering,' because the fight is in progress, then 'that conquered' because the triumph is assured." The same authority says, "Our faith' conquers the world by clinging to the eternal realities." Vincent says, "Our faith is embraced in the confession that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God." This is brought out in v. 5, in the question, "Who is he who is constantly conquering the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" A heart belief in the incarnation with all that that implies results in an individual who gains the victory over the world. Unitarianism was clearly one of the most wide-spread heresies of the early Church, for John over and over again in this epistle writes against it.

*Wuest, K. S. (1997). Wuest's word studies from the Greek New Testament: for the English reader (Vol. 13, p. 174). Eerdmans.*

Translation. Because everything born of God is constantly coming off victorious over the world. And this is the victory that has come off victorious over the world, our faith. Who is he who is constantly coming off victorious over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

### **True Freedom / World in Bondage – Chasing Fading Things – Coming Up Short**

Being born of God is true freedom, the world has no idea, they say we are in bondage to rules and regulations, but it is truly they that are in bondage. People are out there chasing after the things of the world never being satisfied, always coming up short, always being overcome by the events and circumstances of the world.

### **Born Again – Overcomes World / Know One who Loves has Overcome**

But one that has been born again, has overcome the world and knows that life is in the Son. They also know the One who loves them, has overcome the world.

### **How Overcome Seductions / Not a Program – But a Person**

How do we overcome the seductions, temptations, and attractions of the world? Not by a program, but through a Person:

*(John 16:33 NKJV) "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."*

### **Christ in You**

How can I have any rest when you leave this building today? Jesus living in you, changing your heart and changing your life.

*(Colossians 1:27 NKJV) To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

### **Simply Keep handling Him / Simple Formula / With Him – In You – Move You – Nothing Outside**

We simply keep handling Him, hanging out with Him. It is real simple, there is no magic formula for the successful Christian life, hang out with Him, who is in you, and He will move in you, and nothing outside of you can touch you, for"

*(1 John 4:4 NKJV) You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.*

## **Eternal Life – We Have Confidence to Overcome / World Can't Say Same / Celebrate**

We who have been given this eternal life have confidence in these things, that at our choosing we can overcome all things. The world can not say the same. For we have the Spirit of the living God dwelling in us. Glory, and Hallelujah! Celebrate this freedom. Christian, may I remind you, we are fighting from victory, not to victory. The victory has already been won on Calvary's Cross, now we claim and apply that victory into our lives.

### **4 Tests Recap**

Maybe you noticed these 5 verses are a recap of the 4 evidences/tests of salvation:

#### **4 Evidences/Tests of Salvation:**

- Moral Test (Keeping His Commandments) – (2:3-5) / (5:2-3)
- Social Test (Brotherly Love) – (2:7-11) / (5:2)
- Worldliness Test (Love of the World) – (2:15-17) / (5:4-5)
- Doctrinal Test (Who Jesus Is) – (2:21-24) / (5:1&5)

#### **Outline - The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Is Ours as Believers (Chapter 5:1-21):**

- **The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) of God's Witness of Who He Is (1 John 5:6-13)**

We all have our places of doubt, am I really saved, well God gives us a witness. First the witness that Jesus Christ is God, left the throne to become man. Secondly, He gives witnesses to us that we are saved, and can have confidence in that.

**(1 John 5:6 NKJV) This is He who came by water and blood; Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.**

### **Water & Blood**

Water and blood are the elements/fluids at birth. The water breaks, the births, and blood flows.

### **Gnostic Heresy**

Keep in mind that throughout his entire epistle, John is doing battle with gnostics who taught that because the material realm is evil (refer to chapter 4 notes), if Christ was, indeed, who He claimed to be, He couldn't really have had a material body. Again, their goal is to diminish Jesus' deity, and/or distance Him from man as being un-relatable to man, a God who is distant and far off that is unattainable to access, thus a need for a man to access Him (those with special knowledge or access).

### **Came – By**

“Came” is an aorist participle in the Greek text, referring to a definite fact in history, the first Advent of the Son of God embracing human nature without its sin through virgin birth. “By” is *dia* (διὰ), the preposition of intermediate agency, speaking here of accompaniment and instrumentality. His coming to make an atonement for sin was accompanied by and made effective through water and blood. Vincent says, “Water refers to Christ's baptism at the beginning of His Messianic work, through which He declared His purpose to fulfil all righteousness (Matt. 3:15). Blood refers to His bloody death upon the Cross for the sin of the world.” Robertson says, “These two incidents in the Incarnation are singled out because at the baptism Jesus was formally set apart to His Messianic work by the coming of the Holy Spirit upon Him and by the Father's audible witness, and because at the Cross His work reached its culmination (‘It is finished,’ Jesus said).”

### **Spirit Bears Witness**

It is the Holy Spirit who is the third witness to the Incarnation, the water and the blood being the other two. John writes, “And the Spirit is the One who is constantly bearing witness, because the Spirit is the truth.”

**(1 John 5:7 NKJV) For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.**

## Jesus the Word

Jesus is the Word:

*(John 1:1 NKJV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

*(John 1:2 NKJV) He was in the beginning with God.*

*(John 1:3 NKJV) All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.*

*(John 1:4 NKJV) In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.....*

*(John 1:14 NKJV) And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

## Three are One / Trinity

These Three are One, a most powerful verse about the Trinity, validating the Trinity:

## Genesis & Deuteronomy

Notice it is "Us" plural:

*(Genesis 1:26 NKJV) Then God said, "Let **Us** make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."*

*(Deuteronomy 6:4 NKJV) "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one!"*

## Side Note:

Perhaps this verse is footnoted in your Bible as not being in the original manuscript. In this way, one of the most powerful statements of the Trinity takes its place with other passages whose validity is questioned in many good translations (NIV, NASV, NRSV). Among them are John 8—the story of the woman taken in adultery—Mark 16:15 (go therefore), and Romans 8:1 (there is no condemnation).

But remember, we not only have copies of the original texts—we also have sermons of church fathers that are older than the oldest texts we have. And guess what. The messages of the early church preachers refer to John 8, Mark 16, Romans 8, and 1 John 5:7. So whatever texts they had in their hands contained the very passages that newer translations question. If these texts were not so pivotal, I wouldn't think so much about the controversy. But I see something more than coincidental in attacking such powerful passages.

**(1 John 5:8 NKJV) And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.**

**(1 John 5:9 NKJV) If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son.**

## We in Habit of Receiving Man

The word "if" here is not *ean* (ἐάν), a conditional particle of an unfulfilled condition, but *ei* (εἰ), the conditional particle of a fulfilled condition. It is used with the indicative mode, and assumes the reception of the witness of men to be a fact. The idea is, "In view of the fact that we receive the witness or testimony (*marturia* (μαρτυρία)) of men." "Receive" is *lambanō* (λαμβάνω), "to take, appropriate, receive." The reception of testimony is therefore the act of appropriating it to ourselves as something to be depended upon as the truth. John's thought is here, "Since we are in the habit of receiving the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, and therefore should be received."

## My Beloved Son / Spirit – Water – Blood Testify

If we believe the information given to us by mere people, how can we not believe the statements made by God? This My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased, the Father testifies, and the three, the Spirit, water and blood testify and agree, Jesus has come into the world, your Savior is born. We see it throughout the Scriptures:

## Water, Spirit, and the Father:

*(Matthew 3:16 NKJV) **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.*

*(Matthew 3:17 NKJV) And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "**This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**"*



## **The Blood:**

*(Hebrews 13:20 NKJV) Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,*

## **As They bear Witness of Jesus / They Bear Witness in Our Lives**

Just as the Father, the Word, and the Spirit bear witness in heaven and are one; the Spirit, the water, and the blood bear witness on earth of Jesus Christ, so do They bear witness to our lives, and gives us confidence of Eternal Life:

### **First the Spirit**

First, the Spirit bears witness that Jesus Christ is in us. Paul put it this way:

*(Romans 8:16 NKJV) The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*

### **My Faults Pointed Out / Spirit Says Saved**

No matter how many people argue with me or point out my faults accusingly, I know I'm a child of God because His Spirit bears witness with my spirit, you are saved, you have Eternal Life, you can have confidence in that.

### **Second – Water Baptism / Satan Condemns / Water Reminds & Confirms**

Second, water bears witness that Jesus Christ is in us. When Satan says, "You're not saved, and you may say maybe I am not," think back to the day you went into the water of baptism and came out looking like a drowned rat. What would make you do that? The Spirit drew you—and the water is a confirmation or reminder to you. Some people will say that is silly, getting all wet. Have your water baptism in a public place and watch the people gather and look on, their minds can't comprehend why you would do that: *(Acts 2:41 NKJV) Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.*

### **Third – The Blood / Come to Communion Table**

Third, the blood bears witness that Jesus Christ is in us. I come to the table of Communion, and as I drink of the cup, I absorb and embrace, commemorate and celebrate the work of Christ on my behalf:

*(1 Corinthians 11:23 NKJV) For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread;*

*(1 Corinthians 11:24 NKJV) and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me."*

*(1 Corinthians 11:25 NKJV) In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

### **Spirit inside You / Baptism went Through / Blood Shed for You**

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, confidence that you are His.

**(1 John 5:10 NKJV) He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; 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.**

### **Martus**

"Witness" is martus (μαρτυς). It is used of a witness, "one who avers, or can aver, what he himself has seen or heard or knows by any other means" (Thayer). It is used of one who testifies to what he has seen or heard, for instance, a witness in a court of law. Thus, the one who believes on the Son of God has the testimony in him to the effect that he thus believes. Paul in Romans 8:16 tells us that the Holy Spirit bears testimony in connection with our human spirits as energized by the Holy Spirit that we are children of God. That is, our human spirit, energized by the Holy Spirit, gives us the consciousness that we as believers are children of God. The Holy Spirit testifies to us that that same thing is true.

*Romans 8:16 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup> The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*

**(1 John 5:11 NKJV) And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.**

### **Sorry Islam / Life Only in the Son**

(1 John 5:11 NKJV) And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. - Sorry, Islam. Sorry Watchtower Society. Sorry Salt Lake City. The fact of the matter is this: Life is in the Son, and the Son only.

**(1 John 5:12 NKJV) He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.**

### **Has – Present Tense / Life Now – Full Fruition in Twinkling of Eye**

Verse 12 - He who has the Son has life – Has is present tense, you have it now. Age abiding life now. It will come into full fruition when we put off these corruptible bodies:

*(1 John 3:2 NKJV) Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.*

### **Twinkle of an Eye / 1/55<sup>th</sup> of Second - Changed**

In a twinkle of an eye, the medical world says that 1/55<sup>th</sup> of a second is a blink of an eye; we will be changed that quickly:

*(1 Corinthians 15:51 NKJV) Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed;*

*(1 Corinthians 15:52 NKJV) in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*

*(1 Corinthians 15:53 NKJV) For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.*

*(1 Corinthians 15:54 NKJV) So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."*

*(1 Corinthians 15:55 NKJV) "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"*

### **Receiver Eternal Life – Jesus the Propitiation**

Verse 12 - he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. - Strong words, true words. The receiver of Eternal Life are those who believe God's witness of His Son, that He died for my sin personally, was the propitiation (appeasement) of God's wrath for sinning against the One and Holy God. Believe isn't just a statement, it is a whole doctrine, it becomes a lifestyle.

### **Born Twice Die Once / Born Once Die Twice**

Forgiveness must be granted in this consciousness, this life. We must be born twice; once at birth, then born of the Spirit (born again – John 3). Born twice, die once. Born once, die twice. Meaning if you are born twice, you will only die once, when you take your last breath on earth (barring the rapture). If you are born only once, at birth, you will die here on earth, and then die again spiritually when you sent from the presence of the Holy God into eternal damnation. In his Gospel, John added a phrase to this verse for greater emphasis when he wrote, "But the wrath of God will abide on him":

*(John 3:36 NKJV) "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."*

### **Baptism – Communion – Spirit / Testify**

For those that have been born twice, baptism, communion, the Spirit all testify to the fact that you have been Born-Again.

**(1 John 5:13 NKJV) 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.**

### **John Writes – Eternal Life**

John writes to us, that we may know that we have eternal life.

Smith comments: "The purpose for which St. John wrote his Gospel was that we might believe in the Incarnation, and so have eternal life (20:31); the purpose of the Epistle is not merely that we may have

eternal life by believing, but that we may know that we have it. The Gospel exhibits the Son of God, the Epistle commends Him. It is a supplement to the Gospel, a personal application and appeal.”

“I have written” is an epistolary aorist, a courtesy extended the reader by the writer of a letter in which the latter puts himself at the viewpoint of the reader when he receives the letter, looking at the letter which he is writing as a past event, although it is a present one with him. John refers here, therefore, not to a previous letter, but to the one he is writing. “Know” is oida (οἶδα), speaking, not of experiential knowledge, but of absolute, beyond the peradventure of a doubt knowledge, a positive knowledge.

*Wuest, K. S. (1997). Wuest's word studies from the Greek New Testament: for the English reader (Vol. 13, pp. 178–179). Erdmans.*

### **God Wants you Assured / Roll Away the Stone – Live**

The 4<sup>th</sup> reason John writes to us, that we may know that we have eternal life. John writes to us so that we may have assurance of our salvation. God wants us to know that we know, that we won't wrestle with our salvation. Many Christians are robbed because they continually wonder am I truly saved. God wants you to have that assurance, so you too can roll away that stone, walk out of whatever it is that is keeping you imprisoned or entombed, but to walk out and live:

*(John 10:10 NKJV) ..... I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

### **Outline - The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Is Ours as Believers (Chapter 5:1-21):**

- **The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that God Hears our Prayers (1 John 5:14-17)**

When we have confidence in our salvation, then we can have confidence in our prayers

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

**(1 John 5:15 NKJV) And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**

### **Confidence (Free & Fearless Confidence)**

“Confidence” is parrēsia (παρρησία), “free and fearless confidence, cheerful courage, boldness, assurance.” “In Him” is pros auton (προς αὐτον). The preposition pros (προς) means “toward,” speaking of the saint's attitude towards a prayer-hearing and a prayer-answering God.

### **Assurance Salvation / Confidence in Prayer / Chapter 4 He Loves Us**

When we have assurance of our salvation, we will have assurance and confidence in our prayer. If you question your salvation, then you'll question if He hears. Back to last chapter, question His Love, that He has nothing but goodness for us, then we will be praying amiss.

### **God Good Enough to say No / Ask Dumb Things / Just Gives Best**

So, too, if we ask for things or situations that are not God's will, He's good enough and kind enough and loving enough to say, “I didn't hear that, did I?” We ask for the dumbest things! Think back to that for which you prayed passionately when you were eighteen, twenty-four, or sixty years old. So good is God to you and me that He says, “I'm not going to hear prayers that are not My will—not because I'm mean, but because I want the best for you.”

### **Ask according to His Will**

On the other hand, if we ask anything according to His will, God hears us....

- “Lord, help me to love people,” we say. –
- “I hear you,” He answers.
- “Help me to forgive people I feel have wronged me,” we pray. -
- “I hear your prayer,” He replies.

### **Ask Will – He Hears / Prayers Crashing – Do some Investigation / God Loves – Something Lurking**

John tells you and me that if we ask anything according to His will, God hears us. And if He hears us, we have confidence that He will give us that for which we ask. So if your prayers are crashing before they

make it to heaven, do some investigation as to why. God loves you too much to let things continue on in your life as if nothing is wrong, when really there is something lurking that will hurt you greatly.

### **Rebellion – Prayers Unanswered / God Punishing – No the Cross / Not Answer – A Sign**

If I'm living in rebellion and sin, my prayers will not be answered. Why? Because God is mad at me? No, it's because it's a sign that I'm involved in some sin that, if not dealt with, will wipe me out. Thus, God's failure to answer my prayer is not punishment but protection. It is not punishment because all punishment was poured out upon Jesus there on the cross. Rather if God is not answering prayers it may be a sign that things are not right in your life.

*(Psalms 66:18 NKJV) If I regard iniquity in my heart, **The Lord will not hear.***

### **Husbands Not Honoring Wife**

Because God wants husbands and wives to walk in unity and love, if a husband is not honoring or loving his wife, his prayers will be hindered as an incentive for him to make things right. God wants unity between the husband and wife.

*(1 Peter 3:7 NKJV) Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, **that your prayers may not be hindered.***

### **The Altar – Offended Party**

When you come to the altar—to the place of worship and petition—and there the Holy Spirit taps you on the shoulder, saying, "This person is deeply and greatly offended with you," you need to make things right with him before you continue in prayer.

*(Matthew 5:23 NKJV) "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, (Matthew 5:24 NKJV) "leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, **and then come and offer your gift.***

### **Not Abiding**

If we're not in the Word, not abiding, we can't pray in harmony with the heart of Jesus because we won't know what His will is. Consequently, our prayers won't be heard.

*(John 15:7 NKJV) "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, **and it shall be done for you.***

### **Not Saved**

Lastly, maybe your prayers bounce because you have never made that personal commitment to Him as your Lord and Savior. The first prayer God will hear from you is a prayer of repentance:

*(Proverbs 28:9 NKJV) One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, **Even his prayer is an abomination.***

### **Harboring Sin – Marriage – Relationship – Abiding / Will Hinder Prayer**

Is there a sin you're harboring? Are there problems in your marriage? Is there a relationship that needs to be repaired? Are you neglecting the Word? These are the issues that will hinder our prayers.

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

**(1 John 5:17 NKJV) All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not leading to death.**

### **Confusing Verses / Sin Unto Death / Blasphemy of Holy Spirit**

These can be some confusing verses. "If you see a brother sinning, pray for him that the Lord will convict him and that he will choose to do what is right," says John. "But if he is sinning unto death, do not pray for him." The sin unto death is the rejection of Jesus Christ—the blasphemy of the Spirit:

*(Matthew 12:31 NKJV) "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.*

*(Matthew 12:32 NKJV) "Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.*

### **Point of No Return – No Prayer**

"My spirit will not always strive with man," God declared (Genesis 6:3). Thus, there comes a point in time when a man says, "No," to the prompting of the Spirit so many times that he cannot be born again. If a man has done this, we are not to pray for him.

## **How Know – We Can't – Keep Praying**

How can we know if someone has come to that point? We can't. Therefore, we're to keep praying.

## **Back to Verse / No prayers After Death**

Now back to these verses, which can be quite confusing. Let me tell what I am sure of is this, there is no praying after death. Salvation is determined on this side of eternity, and there are no after death prayers that we who are still alive can pray for that person.

*(Psalms 49:7 NKJV) None of them can by any means redeem his brother, Nor give to God a ransom for him;*

## **Gnostic Heresy / No Purgatory / Today is the Day**

The Gnostic heresy we have been talking about taught that eternity was not decided here on earth, but in the afterlife. Some still believe and teach that today. Beloved, there is no purgatory, it is not Scriptural, it is man's doctrine. Today is the Day of Salvation:

*(2 Corinthians 6:2 NKJV) For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

## **Outline - The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Is Ours as Believers (Chapter 5:1-21):**

- **The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Jesus Keeps Us (1 John 5:18-21)**

John closes this epistle with 3 "we know" statements:

*(1 John 5:18 NKJV) We know that whoever is born of God does not sin...*

*(1 John 5:19 NKJV) We know that we are of God.....*

*(1 John 5:20 NKJV) And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding.....*

**(1 John 5:18 NKJV) We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.**

## **Original Greek - He refers to Jesus / Jesus Keeps Us**

Verse 18a - he who has been born of God keeps himself - The original Greek text makes it clear that the word "he" refers to Jesus, and the word "himself" is actually "him." Thus, Jesus—who is begotten of God—keeps him. Keeps who? You and me:

*(Jude 1:24 NKJV) Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,*

*(Jude 1:25 NKJV) To God our Savior, Who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen.*

## **Wicked one Can't touch Us / No Demon Possession / Light cast out Darkness**

Verse 18b - and the wicked one does not touch him - I love this! Jesus keeps me, and the wicked one cannot do anything to me. Demon possession in a Christian is impossible because we're kept by Jesus—and greater is He in us than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4). We are kept by the Light, and where there is Light there can be no darkness. That should bring you great peace for you and your family:

*(1 John 4:4 NKJV) You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.*

*(1 John 1:5 NKJV) This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.*

## **Christian Keep Lord between You and Devil**

Christian let me give a strong word here, you always want to keep Jesus in between you and the Devil.

Don't mess with the Devil without Dad. Even Michael the Archangel said the Lord rebuke you:

*(Jude 1:9 NKJV) Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"*

## **Don't Study the Evil one - Study the Great One**

Don't get yourself mixed up with trying to bind Satan, or figure out which evil spirit it is that you are dealing with - they are all evil, that is all we need to know, and that is all that the Scriptures tell us. Don't study the Evil One, study the Great One, for all darkness must flee and be consumed by the Light:

*(1 John 1:5 NKJV) This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.*

**(1 John 5:19 NKJV) We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.**

### **Not Doom & Gloom – Just Fact – Accept It**

*the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one* – this isn't a doom and gloom statement, it is just a statement of fact. This is truth—but it isn't despair. Things will not be right until Jesus Christ comes back to rule and reign. Until then, it's pointless to pin our hopes to anything but that fact; if we try we will become depressed and bummed out.

**(1 John 5:20 NKJV) And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, 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.**

The true God.....Jesus Christ.

### **Gospel / If You Were to Die Tonight**

#### **Personal**

*Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV)* <sup>11</sup> For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

#### **Problem**

*Romans 3:23 (NKJV)* <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

#### **Penalty**

*Romans 6:23 (NKJV)* <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

#### **Provision**

*John 3:16 (NKJV)* <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

#### **Profession**

*Romans 10:13 (NKJV)* <sup>13</sup> For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

#### **Recognize**

*John 14:6 (NKJV)* <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

#### **Repent**

*Acts 3:19 (NKJV)* <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

#### **Receive**

*Romans 10:9 (NKJV)* <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

**(1 John 5:21 NKJV) Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.**

### **Strange way to End – Back to Beginning**

Strange way to end this book it may seem, but go back to the beginning:

*(1 John 1:1 NKJV) That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life;*

*(1 John 1:2 NKJV) 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;*

*(1 John 1:3 NKJV) 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.*

*(1 John 1:4 NKJV) And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.*

### **Know Him – Fellowship with Him / Don't let Anything get in Way**

The theme through this whole book has been, you know Him, you have given your life to Him, now don't let anything get in the way of that relationship, don't let anything diminish that fellowship with Him. You

may not bow down to carven images, but we can all have idols today, it may be your car, your job, your football team, your ministry, even your children. God says to us you have studied this book, now live in My Light, My Love, and My Life, let nothing get in the way of that.

The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Is Ours as Believers (Chapter 5:1-21):

- The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) to Overcome All Things (1 John 5:1-5)
- The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) of God's Witness of Who He Is (1 John 5:6-13)
- The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that God Hears our Prayers (1 John 5:14-17)
- The Confidence (Fearless Freedom) that Jesus Keeps Us (1 John 5:18-21)

Prayer

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

*Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

**In Every Study**

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

*Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*