



An Invitation to Joy

A Series from 1 John

God says, “Don’t Worry, I’ve Got This!”
1 John 5:11-13

In Christ, God has taken care of your past.

¹¹ And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Text Message:

- In this text is John uses several different Greek verb tenses to tell us what God has done for us in Christ.
- Look at the verb “gave” here; that “God gave us eternal life.”
- This is the Greek aorist tense and refers to action in the past.
- Notice here that this eternal life is only “in his Son:” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6
- So, to have eternal life is to go to the Father through Jesus:
 - 1) **Accept** the truth that I sin because I am a sinner and can do nothing to bridge the gap of separation between me and God (Romans 3:10; 23).
 - 2) **Believe** that Jesus is Lord, had died in my place and has been raised for my life (Romans 10:9).
 - 3) **Confess** my acceptance and belief in Christ Jesus alone.
- **But** it doesn’t end there, because in Christ, He takes care of

your present!

In Christ, God takes care of your present.

¹² Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Text Message:

- Here John switches from the aorist (past) tense to the present tense, which means right here and right now.
- In other words, eternal life is not just something in the future but in Christ for today’s crazy world with its challenges!
- This does not happen **automatically**, but **intentionally** as we trust and surrender to Christ in all of life.
- We automatically default to our own understanding but must choose to trust Christ (Proverbs 3:5-7).
- Let’s look at an example from Jesus’ time in Luke 13:1-5 and note that this **is not** referring to life-after-death!
- Trusting Jesus for my life today is not a FREE PASS TO AN EASY LIFE, but the assurance that:
 - 1) He is working His will out in and through my life.
 - 2) He is with me **no matter what!**
- Remember, these words are coming from someone (the Apostle John) who was tortured for Christ and knew of the martyrdom of many friends!
- Which means eternal life in the here and now is not found in the things the world chases and says, “This is the life!”

In Christ, God has taken care of your future.

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.

Text Message:

- Let’s look at one final verb tense, found in the words, “that you may **know** that you have eternal life.”
- This is the Greek perfect tense, which refers to an action in the past that has continuing results to the present.
- Our knowing of eternal life is something that is settled in the past, over and done with, with results to the present.
- “Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine...” Fanny Crosby