

Life That Is Real
“Blessed Assurance”
I John 5:6-13
Pt. 14

Introduction - There is an interesting contrast between John’s purpose statement at the end of His Gospel and His purpose statement at the end of His first epistle. At the end of His gospel, chp. 20:31, “But these are written, that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name.”

At the end of his first epistle, John says, “*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.*” I John 5:13

So the contrast is, “*have life*” and “*know you have eternal life.*” Having and knowing are not the same thing. God not only wants you to *have* eternal life; He wants you to *know* that you have eternal life.

Some insist that you can never know, but can only hope you go to Heaven when you die! Still, others claim to you’re saved is the height of pride and presumption.

It’s not pride to take God at His word. Assurance and humility are not incompatible.

Assurance is not necessary for salvation, but it is important for several reasons:

1. You can’t enjoy what you don’t know you have!
2. Assurance is a condition for serving Christ.
3. Assurance brings peace, purpose, and power to our life.
4. It’s clearly taught in the Bible. I John 5:13

I. The Word of God The Father, vv. 6-9

John introduces the subject of faith or believing in Jesus, vs. 1, vs. 4, and vs. 5. So the question is, “*Is Jesus Christ the Son of God a solid foundation upon which to rest our faith?*”

John called on three witnesses that confirm the testimony of the Father to the Son:

1. Who are the witnesses? vv. 6-8
 - a. The Water.
 - b. The Blood.

c. The Spirit. John 15:26

2. The Father's greater witness, vs. 9.

It's weightier, more authoritative, and more trustworthy. Assurance of salvation comes to us when we by faith take God at His word!

Illustration: Abraham, Rom. 4:20. "He staggered not or did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief."

John 3:16, its as simple as believing God's word!

II. The Experiential Witness of God the Holy Scripture, vs. 10

"To the external witnesses of the voice of the Father, the descent of the Spirit as a dove and the shedding of blood..."

A. "He that believeth" on the Son. It is in the present tense, and also denotes reliance upon, trust in, or commitment too.

B. "Hath the witness in himself." At the time of your conversion, you were given new life, eternal life, by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

• The Earnest • The Seal • The Witness

Romans 8:16, "*The Spirit himself beareth witness with our Spirit, that we are the children of God.*"

C.H. Spurgeon said the witness in Himself; involves the "*wondrous sense of change which comes over the believer.*" The "*wondrous power which goes with the word of God,*" and the "*deep feeling of peace which comes to us through believing in Jesus.*"

III. The Work of God the Son, vv. 11-13

"And this is the record," vs. 11. So John gives us the context of the witness. It's twofold.

1. "That God hath given to us eternal life," vs. 11.

2. "This life is in His Son," vs. 11.

Three important truths about eternal life are found in these verses:

- A. Eternal life is a gift, vs. 11.
- B. Eternal life is a present possession, vs. 11 & 12.
- C. Eternal life is only found in Jesus, vv. 11-12.

The certainty of eternal life!

- “Whosoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved...”
- Rom. 8, no condemnation, no separation.
- John 10:27-28
- The Word of God the Father.
- The witness of God the Holy Spirit.
- The work of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.