Grace Bible Church Pastor Randy Fulton

**Assurance of Eternal Life**

**By This We Know: The Letters of John** July 16, 2025

Eternal life is not something we hope to receive one day ... it is our present possession in Christ (Jn 5:24, 10:27-28; 1 Jn 3:1-3), and we can know for sure we have it! John highlights two tangible testimonies of eternal life: our own lives, and the testimony of God Himself! This short letter concludes with the Profound Confidence we have in God!

**Our Personal Testimony of Eternal Life 5:1-5**

**Our Abiding Faith** “*who believes ... has been born of God” 1a, 4-5*

1. Continuing in the faith is evidence of the new birth (1 Jn 2:19)

*“Christians do not keep themselves born again by believing ...*

*it is their perseverance in the faith that gives evidence that*

*they have been born again.”* ⎯ MacArthur, *1-3 John* (1 Jn 5:1a)

1. Overcoming the world in abiding faith evidences new birth

Neither deceived by false teachings/ demons (1 Jn 4:1-6)

Nor derailed by temptations to sin/ trials to quit (1 Jn 2:27-28)

In abiding faith we look forward to His coming! (1 Jn 2:28)

**Our Love** *“we know that we have passed out of death into life”* (3:14)

Love for the Father (1 Jn 4:19)

 Love for the Family ... all who are born again (Jn 13:35; 1 Jn 3:14, 4:7)

**Our Walk** *“by this we know ... we keep His commandments”*

 Not a duty, but evidence of our love relationship! (1 Jn 1:7, 2:3, 3:2)

*“by this we know that we have come to know Him,*

*if we keep His commandments”* 1 John 2:3

*“by this it is evident who are the children of God and*

*who are the children of the devil: whoever does*

*not practice righteousness is not of God.”* 1 John 3:10

**The Powerful Testimony of God 5:6-12**

**The Water**: God’s testimony at Jesus’ baptism (Mark 1:9-11)

 Heavens opened, Spirit resting on Jesus, Father’s declaration

**The Blood:** God’s testimony at Jesus’ crucifixion(Matt 27:45-54)

Darkness, curtain torn/earthquake, saints raised

**The Spirit**: Confirms God’s testimony to us (Jn 16:14; 1 Jn 2:27; Rom 8:16)

 “*Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself.*

 *Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar.”* (1 Jn 5:10)

**The Conclusion**: *“God gave us eternal life ... in His Son!”* (1 Jn 5:11-12)

Our assurance of eternal salvation is based on

the testimony of God, not our emotional stability!

**Our Profound Confidence 5:13-21**

**Eternal Life** *(1 Jn 4:19-20)*  **13**

Our mental settledness *“know that you have eternal life!”*

**Power in Prayer** *(1 Jn 4:21-22)* **14-17**

In humility, seeking His will (Matt 6:10; Lk 22:42)

 He hears and will grant all such requests

 Interceding for a believer in sin (Lk 22:31-32; Gal 6:1-2)

 Exception: sin leading to death (Acts 5:1-11; Jas 5:19-20)

 Note: God’s discipline of physical death, not eternal) 1 Cor 3:15, 11:30-32)

**Security from Satan** *(1 Jn 3:7-9)* **18-19**

Once born again (God’s DNA: Divine Nature Abiding)

 We cannot “keep on sinning” w/o discipline. (1 Jn 3:9)

 We are protected from the evil one, world in his power

**Assurance by His Anointing** *(1 Jn 2:27)* **20-21**

Jesus Christ has given His Spirit to teach us

His Spirit gives us understanding of His work (1 Cor 2:12)

 His Spirit opens our minds to the truth

 His Spirit assures us of our position in Christ! (Rom 8:16)