

Sermon: 1 John 5:13-21 "What we know"

1. You have eternal life vs 13
2. He hears our prayers vs 14, 15
3. He grants our requests vs 15
4. Those born of God do not go on sinning vs 18
5. Jesus protects us vs 18
6. The Devil cannot touch us vs 18
7. We are of God vs 19
8. The world is under the power of Satan vs 19
9. Jesus has come vs 20
10. Jesus has given us understanding vs 20
11. We can and do know God vs 20
12. We are in God, and in Jesus vs 20

1. You Have eternal life

- a. John is writing to those who "believe in the name of the son of God"
 - i. What is the name of the son of God
 1. 1 John 1:3 "... his Son Jesus Christ"
 2. 1Jn 1:7 "... Jesus his Son
 3. 1Jn 3:23 And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
 4. 1Jn 4:15 "... Jesus is the Son of God"
 5. 1Jn 5:5 "... Jesus is the Son of God?"
 - b. There is only one eternal Son of God, He was given a name at his coming to earth, that name is Jesus and it means "God is salvation." He was given that name because he would "save his people from their sin (Mat 1:21)"
 - i. To believe in his name is to believe and accept all that his name means. He is God, He has come to save people from their sin. He did this by giving his perfect life as the atoning sacrifice for our sin.
- c. You may know that you have eternal life
 - i. Notice that this does not say "will have" but "have"
 1. To believe in the name of Jesus is to be spiritually alive. A life that will never end.
 - a. Col 3:3 tells us that our "life is hidden with Christ in God" - If we then are in God who is eternal our life is eternal also.
 - b. Verse 20 says that God himself is eternal life
 - i. So to have eternal life is to have God and to have God is to have eternal life.

1. That why the psalmist can say in psalm 16:11 “you make known to me the path of Life; in your presence is fullness of Joy; at your right hand is are pleasures forever more
- d. To believe in Jesus is to have eternal life, but not some future idea of eternal life. To believe in Jesus is to have Eternal life now.
2. He hears your prayers
 - a. Vs 14 calls it a “confidence” vs 15 say we know he hears our prayers.
 - i. There is a caveat given however and that is that our prayers must be inline with **his** will
 1. In John 14 we see that there is a parallel to asking in the name of Jesus and according to the will of God
 - a. 13And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14If you ask Me for anything in My name, I will do it.
 2. In Matthew 7 Jesus say Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you.
 - a. The assumption here is that Jesus would be the who we ask for, that he would be the one we are seek, that it would be his dwelling place where we knock
 3. **Psalm 145:19** He fulfills the desires of those who fear Him; He hears their cry and saves them.
 4. **Proverbs 10:24** What the wicked man dreads will overtake him, but the desire of the righteous will be granted.
 5. James reveals the same truth in the negative when he says **James 4:3** And when you do ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may squander it on your pleasures.
3. He Grants our requests
 - a. 7“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 9Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? 10Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? 11If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!
 - b. Imagine your Lord or Lady in the court of the Great King. He has assembled you in order to share with you his plans for expanding the

kingdom. In his economy you and your peers are the driving force of the kings to bring these plans to fruition. The king has asked if there was anything you desire, anything you need to see the kingdom you love. Request begin to be made: love, compassion, wisdom, patience, spaghetti endurance, boldness, humility, spaghetti,

4. Those born of God don't go on sinning
 - a. There is a lifestyle change
 - i. 1 Cor 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous^b will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,^c nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.
 - ii. Gal 5: 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21 envy,^d drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do^e such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
 - iii. 2 cor 12:20 For I fear that perhaps when I come I may find you not as I wish, and that you may find me not as you wish—that perhaps there may be quarreling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder. 21 I fear that when I come again my God may humble me before you, and I may have to mourn over many of those who sinned earlier and have not repented of the impurity, sexual immorality, and sensuality that they have practiced.
 - b. Perhaps the best evidence that you are a child of God is that there is a change in your behavior. Perhaps the biggest change is that you identify as sin what God identifies as sin and strive in his strength to keep from doing such things.
5. Jesus Protects us from vs 18
 - a. 31 "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you,^d that he might sift you like wheat, 32 but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."
6. The devil cannot touch us vs 18
 - a. 31 "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you,^d that he might sift you like wheat, 32 but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."

- b. Ephesians 6 Satan is reduced to fiery darts of accusation. All he can do is hurl doubt, and accusation. And this is why John has written so that we might know that we belong to Jesus, that we are safe and protected through faith in him
- 7. We are of God
 - a. The preposition here "ek" means "from" or "out of"
 - i. 5:1 tells us that if we have believed that Jesus is the Christ we have been "born of God"
 - ii. The idea of this word is one substance, being, or nature.
 - b. Your New nature is God's nature, you have been fundamentally changed
 - i. Your spiritual DNA is no longer after the pattern of sin, lies and death but of righteousness, truth, and eternal life
 - c. All this is in contrast with the next statement:
- 8. The World is under the power of Satan
 - a. We address these two statements together as they are joined by the conjunction "and"
 - i. This conjunction tells us that just as we "know" that we are of God we "know" that the world is under the power of the evil one
 - ii. John 8 records a conversation Jesus had with those who did not believe in him and he tells them that they are "of their father, the devil" (John 8:44)
 - 1. And the preposition "of" tells us once again of the nature or the DNA of the subject
 - 2. Those who are not of God are called the world and those identified as the world are under the power of Satan because they are of him
 - b. Application: 1 John 2:15-17 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.
- 9. We know that Jesus, The Son of God, has come
 - a. John is testifying to what he has seen. Jesus is not a mythical God. He is not a dead idol. He is son of God who took on flesh and made his dwelling among us (John 1:14 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son^a from the Father, full of grace and truth.)

- b. The Life of Jesus of Nazareth is one of the most substantiated facts in human history. From Eye witness accounts, to trusted historians we can know that Jesus has come. But more than that we know because the eyes of faith see him. John 20:29 29Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

10. He has given us understanding

- a. What Jesus did in coming to earth was to declare to the world the kingdom of God, and to give understanding to the nature of that kingdom.
- b. The heart of every human is to know that one whom they were created to know-namly God.

11. We can know God

- a. Jesus made God knowable.
- b. You can know God because you can know His Son. and you can even have understanding of the nature and character of God.
 - i. John 14:8Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." 9Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. 11Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

12. We are in God and in Jesus Christ

- a. This was the prayer of Jesus in John 17 :20 I am not asking on behalf of them alone, but also on behalf of those who will believe in Me through their message, 21that all of them may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I am in You. May they also be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.
- b. "Of" God speaks of our new nature: "in" God is a reference to fellowship.
 - i.
 - ii. Jesus demonstrated His "in-ness" - his being "in" by regular time in prayer to God. he was regularly seeking fellowship