

“Being Sure of Your Future2”

Part 3

September 22, 2024

Scripture Text: 1 John 5:11-15 ESV 11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. 14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

VERSE 11 *And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.*

John reminds us that there is no greater authority to testify that we receive eternal life through believing in Jesus Christ. Some would assume they could live by doing good deeds and righteous works to earn eternal life.

It is the fact that you are a sinner; Jesus Christ died for your sins so that you could receive forgiveness. Upon repentance, you were baptized in a watery grave and rose to new life in Christ to celebrate His victory over Death, Hell, and the grave! YOU were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise to be preserved until the day of redemption.

This is God’s essential message to man: that eternal life is a gift from God, received in Jesus Christ.

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

It matters not whether you are Jew or Gentile, race, ethnicity, male, female, or otherwise; when you come to Jesus Christ in repentance, your soul is saved for all eternity. You take up your cross and follow Him for the rest of your days! **2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT** *This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

It is all about Jesus; living in Jesus is evidence of eternal life. **Galatians 2:20-21 NLT** *20 My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer me who lives, but Christ lives in me. So, I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 21 I do not treat the*

grace of God as meaningless. If keeping the law could make us right with God, then there would be no need for Christ to die.

The bottom line.... Without a relationship with Christ, no matter how we avoid it or being associated with religion, heaven will not be your eternal destination!

VERSE 13 *I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.*

Our salvation is never based on our feelings. On Sunday, the Spirit of the Lord was impactful as we worshipped together. On Monday, you were met with a situation that challenged your trust in God and made it difficult to see why God would allow this. On Tuesday, you were hit with another problem and wanted to curse the day. On Wednesday, there are more problems, and you are feeling defeated. If it depends on us... we feel saved on a good day, and on a bad day, we don't know.

We can only **know** by walking in the spirit that our salvation rests in Jesus, not in our performance. Hallelujah!

In restating the message, John hopes to persuade us to believe God's testimony. Even if we already believe, he wants us to know that we have eternal life because of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. So, regardless of what happens, we can **continue to believe**.

VERSE 14 *This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.*

Knowing that your salvation depends on what Jesus has done for you, you can trust His faithfulness and live with conviction. After all, He conquered our greatest enemy, death, and hell, and rose from the grave with all power in His Hand. He gave us eternal life and sent the Holy Spirit to indwell, empower, lead, and guide us into all truth.

Our needs will be met in our relationship with Jesus Christ and our desire to be a living witness for Him. We feel reassured that our prayers are being answered because in **John 15:7** *If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.* When we *abide* in Jesus – living in Him, day by day – then our will becomes more and more aligned with His will, and we can confidently *ask what we desire* and keep on asking more and more **according to His will**.

VERSE 15 *And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.*

When we ask according to God's will and pray God's promises, we have confidence and pray with real and definite faith.

Psalms 37:4-5 AMP *4 Delight yourself in the Lord, And He will give you the desires and petitions of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the Lord; Trust in Him, and He will do it.*

While we wait for the answers, we praise and thank Him because of the Testimony from the Apostle Paul. In **Romans 8:27-28 NIV** *27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. 28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

Applications:

There is nothing more that God can give us than His Son.

There is no other way to receive eternal life outside of submission to God's will.