

Who Jesus is

1 John 5:9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. 1

In everyday life, we constantly accept the word of our fellow men. If we did not, business would be at a standstill and social life would be impossible. We accept the testimony of men who may be mistaken and who may be deceivers. Now if we do this in everyday life, how much more should we trust the word of God, who cannot fail and cannot lie. It is most unreasonable not to believe God. His witness is absolutely credible. Why are people challenged to believe God's Word? 1

1 John 5:10 He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. 2

When a man does accept His testimony concerning His **Son**, God seals the truth by giving the man **the witness** of the Spirit in himself. 12

On the other hand, if a man disbelieves God, he makes **Him a liar; because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son**. People think they can accept or reject God's testimony concerning Christ, but John would have them know that to reject it is to accuse God of dishonesty.22

1 John 5:11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 1

John now summarizes the Christian message: **"This is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son."** What tremendous truths these are, namely, that God has given **eternal life** to men, and that the source of this **life is in His Son**.1

1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 3

From this, the conclusion is inevitable. **He who has the Son has life; and he who does not have the Son of God does not have life**. The teaching is unmistakable. Eternal life is not found in education or philosophy or science or good works or religion or the church. 13

To have **life**, one must **have the Son of God**. On the other hand, **he who does not have the Son of God does not have life**, that is, true life. 23

Eternal life is inseparable from Jesus Christ.³³

Knowing About Eternal Life

1 John 5:13 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. 4

The purpose is that those **who believe in the name of the Son of God may know that they have eternal life.** 14

If you have the marks of those who are children of God, then you can **know** that you have been born into the family of God. What are some marks that we need to have? 24

This verse also teaches that assurance of salvation comes through the word of God. 34

The Scriptures were written that those who believe on the Lord Jesus may have *assurance* that they are saved. There is no need of hoping or guessing or feeling or groping in the dark. It is not presumption for one to say that he is saved. John states in the clearest possible manner that those **who truly believe in the Lord Jesus may know that they have eternal life.** 44

1 John 5:14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 1

Perhaps someone will say, “But how can I know the will of God?” In a general way, the answer is that God’s will is revealed to us in the Sacred Scriptures, and so we should study the word in order that we might know better what God’s will is and how we can pray more intelligently.¹

1 John 5:15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

1 John 5:16 If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that. 12

John gives an instance in which the believer can have confidence in prayer, but he also cites an example in which confidence is not possible. 112

This apparently is a case where a Christian sees a fellow believer engaging in some sinful activity. It is not a sin of a nature as to bring death on the person committing it. In such an instance, the believer can ask for the recovery of the erring person, and God **will give** the petitioner **life** for those who do not sin unto death. 212