

That our joy may be complete – 1 John

1 John 5:6-12

"Eternal Life is in the Son" – May 10th, 2020



Introduction

As Christians, we should be open-minded and good open-mindedness involves being committed to going to wherever the truth leads us no matter what the cost might be. [1 John 5:5](#) speaks exclusively when John points us to Christ as the only way to overcome the world. However, that leads us to ask the logical question why we should believe what John says to begin with. Why do you trust the Bible regarding who Jesus is? John, by the power of the Holy Spirit tells us in 1 John 5:6-12 in today's passage why we can believe it, but also why we can be encouraged by it even as believers who are fighting for faith in a strange time.

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

- I. Believe what the Bible says about Jesus because God's testimony is true. (5:6-10)
- II. Believe what the Bible says about Jesus because eternal life is in His Son. (5:11-12)

Read & Discuss

1) Read [1 John 5:6-10](#)

The baptism of Jesus (*the water*), His crucifixion (*the blood*) and the Spirit each testify (and agree) that Jesus is fully God and fully man. What are some things you trust, because of their verbal or visual testimony even if you aren't there physically? Do you struggle to trust the evidence of God at times that Jesus is the Son of God? John's point is that as good as human testimony may be, nothing comes close to the testimony of God. Everything the Spirit says is true. The Bible testifies to what is accurate and reliable. Notice what John says in verse 10. If we do not believe what the Bible says about Jesus, then we are calling God a liar. Are you ever tempted to be embarrassed that you believe in absolute truth in today's society? God is not ashamed. We are called to point those to see the truth lovingly. This is the most loving thing we can do for someone. What are some of the lines of evidence by which we can rely on Bible provides us an accurate and historical account of who God is and how we can be saved?

Additional Reading: [Matthew 3:17](#) (Jesus' baptism), [Mark 15:21-31](#) (Jesus' crucifixion).

One of the books we highlighted is [Why Trust the Bible? By Greg Gilbert](#)

2) Read [1 John 5:11-12](#)

What does it take for someone to believe God? Even more specifically, what did it take for you to believe that Jesus is God in the flesh? Many people saw Jesus' miracles and heard the voice of God confirm Jesus at His baptism, yet did not believe. The gospel of Jesus goes head to head with our selfish desires. Therefore, we need His help in our innermost being. So, God's Spirit testifies to our hearts about who Christ is as we read His word.

When you hear the words 'eternal life', what comes to mind? John highlights 3 things: Eternal life is given, eternal life is a person (His name is Jesus), and eternal life is not just a future hope, it's a present possession. Whoever HAS the Son HAS eternal life. It's not only the quantity of life it is the quality of life here on earth. In John 17:3 Jesus says, "and this is eternal life that they may know you the only true God and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." To have the Son is to have all that He came to do. As we walk through 1 John, we've seen:

- **1:3** - He opens the door for our fellowship with God
- **1:4** - He is the source of our joy
- **1:7** - He makes fellowship with others possible - without envy, spite, or bitterness
- **1:9** - He forgives sin and cleanses us from shame
- **2:1** - When we do sin, He stands as our Advocate
- **3:2** - He makes being a son or daughter of God possible
- **3:3** - He gives unshakeable hope
- **3:8** - He destroys the work of the devil,
- **4:9-10** - He reveals God's love for us
- **4:18** - Because of Him, love drives out fear
- **5:3** - He makes God's commands *not* burdensome
- **5:4** - Through Him, we overcome the world
- **5:13** - He gives us confidence
- **5:14** - He makes our prayers heard

Knowing we *have the Son* today, what should our lives look like if we lived as if this were true? Because we trust Him, we follow Him. Ask God's help to understand and be encouraged. Once you do that, trust Him, walk-in Faith day by day.

Additional Reading: [Romans 8](#) (see the hope we have in Christ)

Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at <https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

*Next week's sermon text: we turn to 1 John 5:13-21 "The Confidence God Gives."
