

Understanding the Message of 1 John

1 John 5:13 (p.1304)

Intro

In the gospel of John, John recorded 7 signs so that we might _____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we might have _____ in His name.

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:30,31)

_____ you believe in Jesus Christ, you have eternal life, but _____ can you know if you truly believe?

I. 1 John is written so that you can _____ for sure...

1 John was written so that we might have _____ and we might not sin.

...we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. (1 John 1:4)

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. (1 John 2:1)

Sometimes genuine Christians question the _____ of their faith—we call this the question of _____.

The gospel of John addresses the issue of _____; 1 John deals with the issue of _____.

... these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, (John 20:31)

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

The gospel of John tells us _____ we should believe that Jesus is the Christ; 1 John tells us _____ we can know if we really believe it.

The gospel of John was written for _____ so that they would believe in Christ; 1 John was written for _____ so that they would know that they had eternal life.

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

I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake. I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, children, because you know the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one. (1 John 2:12-14)

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

II. That you _____ eternal life.

I write these things...that you may know that you have eternal life v.13

There are three _____ marks of saving faith: first, you are generally _____ according to God's commandments.

Whoever says "I know [God/Christ]" but does not keep his commandments is a liar...whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. (1 John 2:4-6)

If you know that [God] is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him. (1 John 2:29)

No one who abides in [God/Christ] keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him... Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as [Christ] is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil... No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. 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 3:4-10)

We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning... (1 John 5:18)

Secondly, true Christian faith is marked by a _____ for fellow believers.

Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes. (1 John 2:9-11)

They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us. (1 John 2:19)

For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.... We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. (1 John 3:11-15)

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love...Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. (1 John 4:7-11)

If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother. (1 John 4:20,21)

Third, true Christian faith _____ the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh.

No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father. (1 John 2:23,24)

... this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ (1 John 3:23)

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God... By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. (1 John 4:1-3)

... we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. (1 John 4:14,15)

You cannot know for sure that you are a Christian _____ you obey God, love one another, and believe in Jesus Christ.

We don't put faith in _____, and we don't put our faith in our _____; we put our faith in _____.

Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. He is the true God and eternal life. (1 John 5:12)

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If you believe in Jesus Christ, you have eternal life, but how can you know if you truly believe?

James tells us that there are different kinds of faith; how do you know if you have saving faith?

I. **1 John is written so that you can know for sure...**

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...we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. (1 John 1:4)

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. (1 John 2:1)

Sometimes genuine Christians question the sincerity of their faith—we call this the question of assurance.

The gospel of John addresses the issue of faith; 1 John deals with the issue of assurance.

... these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, (John 20:31)

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The gospel of John tells us why we should believe that Jesus is the Christ; 1 John tells us how we can know if we really believe it.

The gospel of John was written for unbelievers so that they would believe in Christ; 1 John was written for believers so that they would know that they had eternal life.

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II. That you have eternal life.

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There are three essential marks of saving faith: first, you are generally living according to God's commandments.

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You cannot know for sure that you are a Christian unless you obey God, love one another, and believe in Jesus Christ.

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