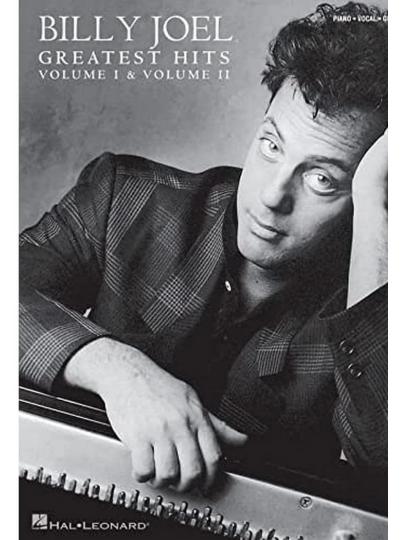


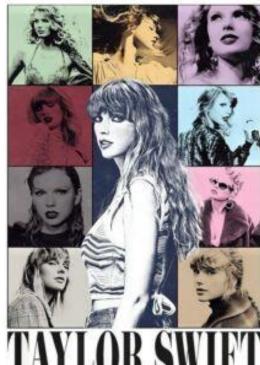


THE LETTER OF FIRST JOHN



Daniel Leal—AFP/Getty Images





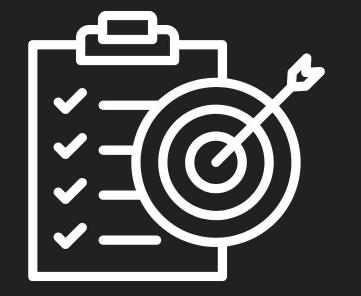
TAYLOR SWIFT THE ERAS TOUR

# "Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves...." 2 Corinthians 13:5

"It's a difficult thing, isn't it, to simultaneously attempt to build up a believer's assurance while undercutting a false assurance? Those who are true believers are often those whose consciences are most sensitive to their own failures in precisely the areas of their delight in God's word, and in obedience to His commandments, and in the deficiencies of their love to one another. And so even as he attempts to undercut false assurance, he may well affect an undercutting of what ought to be a full and robust assurance in a true Christian."

- J. Ligon Duncan

#### GOAL:



### Know and Live A Certain Eternity

(Over 30 evidences of a transformed heart!)

"12 I am writing to you, little *children*, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.

13 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.

14 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



"12 I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake...

13c I write to you, children, because you know the Father"



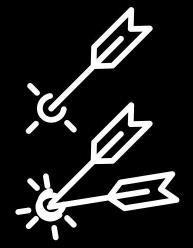
#### Your sins are forgiven





#### Your sins are forgiven

Ephesians 1:7 "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace"

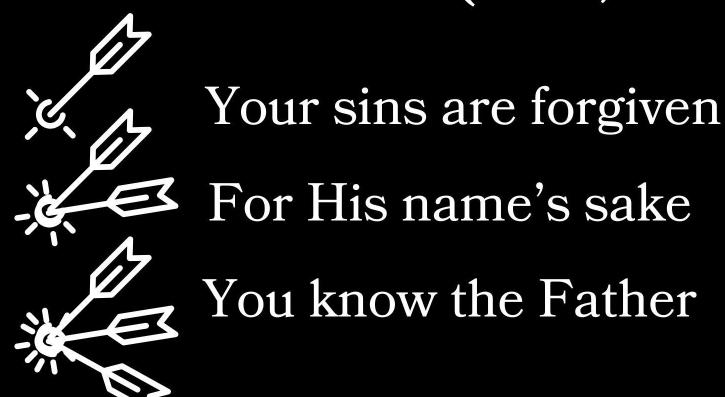


Your sins are forgiven

For His name's sake

Colossians 1:21-22 "21 And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him"

Psalm 106:8 "Yet he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make known his mighty power."

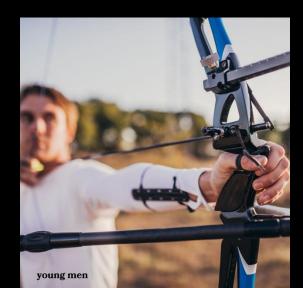


"1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is."

1 John 3:1-2

#### Young men...(v 13b, 14b)

"13b I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one.... 14b 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."



## Young men...(v 13b, 14b) You have overcome the evil one (x2)

Romans 8:37 "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

Romans 6:22 "But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life."

1 John 5:4-5 "4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?"

#### Young men...(v 13b, 14b)

You have overcome the evil one (x2)

You are strong

James 4:7-8 "7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you..."

Ephesians 6:10-11 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

#### Young men...(v 13b, 14b)

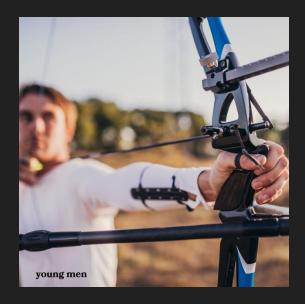


You are strong

The Word of God abides in you

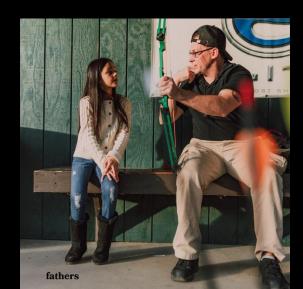
2 Timothy 3:16-17 and Eph 6:17

"What makes one who is a spiritual child become a spiritual young man? The Word of God abiding in him. ... That is the secret of growth. That is what will move him from one stage to another until at last he becomes a father, able to reproduce himself in others... It is absolutely impossible to grow up as a Christian, or as a real man or woman, unless the Word of God abides in you. This is why the devil fights this whole matter of Bible study, the building of your life around the centrality of the Scriptures, and why there is loosed a constant barrage of attack at this level. It is the supremely important thing to move us into maturity. Though the devil cannot stop us from being Christians, he can certainly keep us from becoming strong Christians, and this is exactly the way he does it. He tries to divert our attention and get us off onto spiritual sidetracks." -Ray Stedman

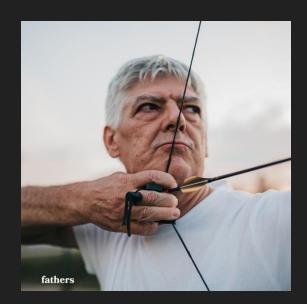


#### Fathers...(v 13a, 14a)

"13a I am writing to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning....14 I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning."



"It is quite possible to have been a Christian for many years, and yet not be a father (speaking of spiritual maturity). There are many who have been saved a great many years but are spiritually dwarfed because they give so little attention to spiritual things. They give so little time to the Word of God, are so seldom exercised in holy things, and know so little of the blessedness of prayer and communion with the Lord, that they do not grow. But when the apostle spoke to the fathers, he was speaking to those who through long years have availed themselves of their Christian privileges, learned to love the Word of God, sought to walk with Christ, labored for the blessing of others, and learned experientially to know the blessed Lord in all His fullness." -H A Ironside



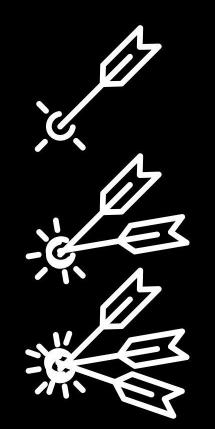
#### Fathers...(v 13a, 14a)



### You know Him who is from the beginning (x2)

John 1:1-2 "In the beginning was 1 John 2:3 "And by this we know the Word, and the Word was with that we have come to know him, God, and the Word was God. 2 He if we keep his commandments." was in the beginning with God."

#### Application



Recognize where you are in your faith journey

Be encouraged to continue to grow in the Lord

Don't be discouraged if you feel like you are failing

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God." – John 1:12-13



