

CERTAIN ETERNITY



THE LETTER OF FIRST JOHN





1 John 5:13-21 “13 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. 14 And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. ... 18 We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. 19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. 20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.”

A photograph of a cityscape, likely London, shrouded in a thick, white fog. The Big Ben clock tower is prominent on the right side, its face glowing slightly. To the left, the spires of a large Gothic cathedral are visible. The rest of the city is mostly obscured by the mist, with only faint outlines of buildings and the River Thames in the distance.

What We Know

1 John 5:13-21 “13 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. 14 And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. ... 18 We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. 19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. 20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.”

Know (Gk. eidō)

Used 15 times in 1 John

intuitive or innate knowledge given by the Holy Spirit

We KNOW we have a certain eternity!

Lies (Gk. keimai)

Reclining or prone // official appointment or destiny



John 10:24-30 “24 So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” 25 Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name bear witness about me, 26 but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. 30 I and the Father are one.”

“Understanding” literally “a through mind”

From 1 John, we know...

1. that we know God (2:3, 13, 14; 4:7).
2. that we are in God (2:5).
3. that it is the last hour (2:18).
4. the truth (2:21; 3:19).
5. that Jesus is righteous (2:29).
6. that we will be like Jesus (3:2).
7. that Jesus came to take away sins (3:5).
8. that Jesus is sinless (3:5).
9. that we have passed out of death into life (3:14).
10. that no murderer has eternal life (3:15).
11. love (3:16; 4:16).
12. that God abides in us (3:24; 4:13).
13. the Spirit of God (4:2).
14. the Spirit of truth and the spirit of deception (4:6).
15. that we love God's children (5:2).
16. that we have eternal life (5:13).
17. that God answers prayer (5:15).
18. that we will not practice sin (5:18).
19. that we belong to God (5:19).
20. that the Son of God has come (5:20).
21. that the Son of God has given us understanding (5:20).
22. Him who is true (5:20).



1 John 5:13-21 “13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may *eido* that you have eternal life. 14 And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. 15 And if we *eido* that he hears us in whatever we ask, we *know* that we have the requests that we have asked of him. ... 18 We *eido* that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. 19 We *eido* that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. 20 And we *eido* that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may [experientially] *ginosko* him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.”



Eternal life is not a thing of changes; the river widens and deepens, ...but it is ever the same river of the water of life; it always flows from the same source, it is always constituted in the same manner. The life of the newborn Christian, who only a few minutes ago began to pray, is precisely the same life which is to be found in yonder bright spirits, that have now been thousands of years in perfection at the right hand of God praising his name. -Charles Spurgeon

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....”

1 Peter 5:6-9 “6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. 8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 Resist him, firm in your faith...”



What We Do

1 John 5:21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols [anything and everything that would occupy the place in your heart due to God].



It is possible for me to worship an idol I call “Jesus” that leads me away from Him. Perhaps my Jesus resembles a teddy bear that lulls me to sleep, or an indulgent father, or a Santa Claus who doesn’t take my sin seriously. Such misconceptions are not the Jesus of the Bible but an idol. That’s the reason John warned us to keep ourselves from idols. – Our Daily Bread 7/26/96



Romans 7:15-19 “15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ... 19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.”

Galatians 5:16-17 “16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.”



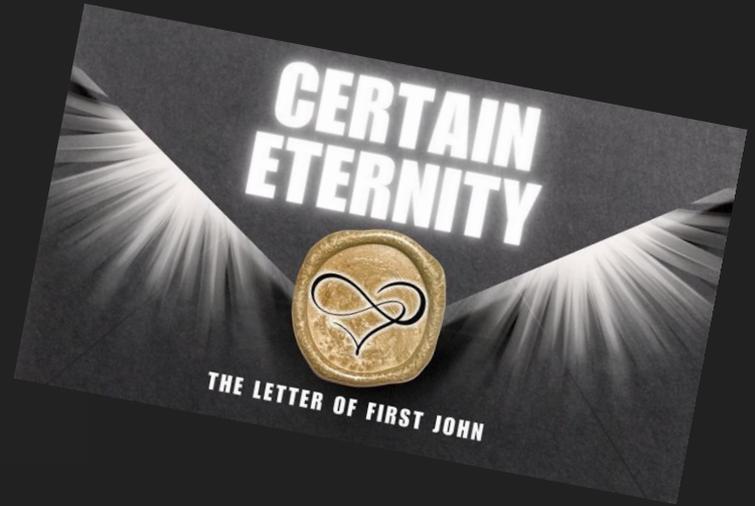
Philippians 2:12-13 “12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”





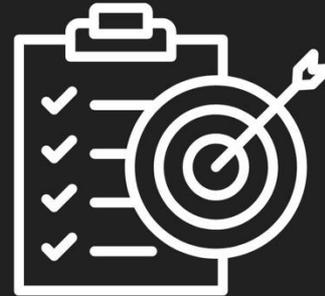
GOAL 1:

Know and Live
A Certain Eternity



GOAL 2:

Know and Live
Yahweh's Kingdom
versus
the kingdom of the
world



GOAL 3:

Know and Live
Good Theology

Photo Links

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