


1 John 5:13-21


Believers Can Know They Have Eternal Life

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Knowledge in 1 John 5:13-21

“you may know you have eternal life” vs. 13
 “if we know that He hears us...” vs. 15
 “we know that we have the requests” vs. 15
 “we know that no one born of God sins” vs. 18
 “we know that we are of God” vs. 19
 “we know that the son of God has come” vs. 20
 “we may know Him who is true” vs. 20



Mini Reasons For John’s Writing

1 John 1:4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.

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

1 John 2:12 I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name’s sake.

1 John 2:26 These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you.



The Major Reason For John's Writing

1 John 5:13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.




Our Confidence In Prayer

1 John 5:14-15 This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.



We Must Pray For Fellow Believers


1 John 5:16-17 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death; I do not say that he should make request for this. All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not leading to death.

 **Believers Are Kept From Satan**

1 John 5:18-19 We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are of God, and that the world lies in the power of the evil one.

Satan's
Realm


Jesus'
Kingdom

 **Jesus Keeps His Sheep**

John 17:12 While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition...

John 17:15 I do not ask You take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one.

Revelation 3:10 Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing...

 **God Has Given Us Understanding**

1 John 5:20-21 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. This is the true God and eternal life. Little children, guard yourselves from idols.



Application

1. Christians can have true knowledge and certainty regarding what God has revealed.
2. God answers believers' prayers according to His will, not necessarily according to our desires.
3. Believers should pray for one another's perseverance.



1. We Can Have True Knowledge

Brian McLaren on epistemology: So, as soon as you admit that all certainty is relative for us creatures (i.e. there is more or less of it), then in a way, you have greater freedom to say, "Yes, there is absolute truth, i.e. truth as God knows it, but for all us finite creatures, our understanding and confidence about that truth is in part, limited, relative to our finite perspectives," etc.

<http://jmm.aaa.net.au/articles/18930.htm>



1. We Can Have True Knowledge

Emergent's False Dilemma:

You either are omniscient like God, or you can know nothing with certainty.

Truth:

Just because we cannot know all things exhaustively does not mean we cannot know some things with certainty!



1. We Can Have True Knowledge

Luke 1:3-4 it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ – this Jesus whom you crucified.



1. We Can Have True Knowledge

Ephesians 5:5 For this you know with certainty; that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

2 Peter 1:5-6, 8 ...and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance...for if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the true knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.



2. God Answers According To His Will

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

John 14:14 If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

James 4:2c-3 You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you spend it on your pleasures.



3. Pray For Other Christian's Perseverance

1 John 5:16 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life...

James 5:19-20 My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.
