



Outline – Sunday School November 05, 2017

Sermon Title: “That You May Know, An Overview”

Topic: The Certainty of Eternal Life

Text: 1 John 5:13

1. The *Conspicuous* **Author:** The Apostle John. “These things have I written....” – 1 John 5:13a
 - a. Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian and Polycarp – Earliest Christian writers and Church Fathers who acknowledged John’s authorship.
 - b. He was an Eye – Witness – 1 John 1:1-3/John 21:20-24
 - c. Style and Terminology – 1 John 1:1; 5:13/John 20:31; 1:1, 14; 6:35-36; 8:12; 10:9-11; 11:25-26
2. The *Contextual* **Affair:** The Rise of False Prophets and Heresy. Acts 20:28-31/1 John 1:1-4; 2:9, 22; 4:1-3, 8, 10, 20; 5:6/Col 2:21-23
 - a. The *place* where Heresy arose – Ephesus, where Platonic thought dominated the culture.
 - b. The *prediction* – (of Paul) the rise of false prophets fulfilled. Acts 20:28-31
 - c. The *perversion* – of the Person of Christ, the fundamentals of apostolic doctrine and practice.
 - Gnosticism – denied the true humanity of Christ to preserve Him from evil. 1 John 1:1-4
 - Docetism – that Christ's body was not human but ‘*seemed to be.*’ 1 John 5:6
 - d. The *problem* and *potential* destruction of these Heresies in the Church:
 - **Denial** of the Anthropos (humanity) Man – Jesus Christ – 1 John 2:22; 4:1-3, 9
 - **Distortion** of the Atonement – 1 John 4:10/Heb 2:14–17
 - **Destructive** behavior patterns in Application – Col 2:16-23/1 John 2:9; 4:8, 20; 1:8ff; 3:4
 - **Delusion** demonstrated in Apostasy – 1 John 2:19

3. A *Christian* **Audience**: Those who presently and actively believe the gospel. – 1 John 5:13b
 - a. (My) “Little children.” – 1 John 2:1; 2:28; 3:7, 18; 4:8; 5:21
 - b. “Father, young men, little children.” – 1 John 2:12-14
 - c. “Sons of God.” – 1 John 3:1
 - d. “Beloved.” – 1 John 3:2; 4:1, 7, 11
 - e. Those who ***know*** *the truth*. – 1 John 2:21
 - f. Those who *presently* and *actively* are *believing* the Gospel. – 1 John 5:13

4. The *Clarifying* **Aim**: The Affirmation of Eternal Life & to abide in believing. – 1 John 5:13c
 - a. The **assurance** of the believer: You presently, actively possess in your person, in position and according to Divine Promise Eternal Life = Fellowship (union and communion) with God by faith in Christ. – 1 John 17:1-3; 5:11-13
 - b. The **assignment** for the believer: Continue to believe the gospel to the end. – Heb 6:10-12/
1 Peter 1:13/Rev 2:25-27