

"Blessed Assurance"

1 John 5:13-21

13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. 14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us-whatever we ask-we know that we have what we asked of him.

16 If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. 17 All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death.

18 We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. 19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. 20 We know also 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-even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.
NIV

For John, it was not enough to just

Think, hope, assume that we have eternal life:
He wants us to know it!

To know I have eternal life means:

Physical death is not the end
Life is to be abundant and full
I can begin enjoying it now

Benefit of knowing #1: Prayer really does work!

I have the confidence that he hears
I have the certainty that prayer is answered

Benefit of knowing #2: We are in this together!

All sin is bad, and some worse than others
All sin is bad, and I should pray for my brother

Benefit of knowing #3: We can have victory over sin!

Christians do not continue in sin
Jesus is the one who keeps us safe

Benefit of knowing #4: We know we are different!

We are children of God
The world is controlled by the evil one

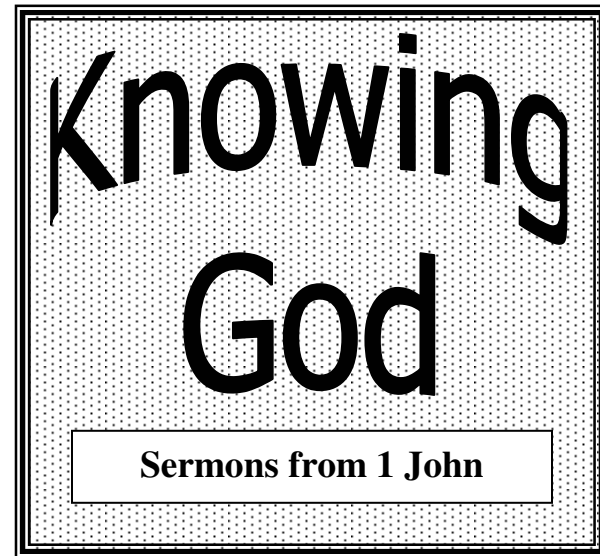
Benefit of knowing #5: We really can know God!

Jesus makes it possible for us to know God
To know Jesus is to know the Father

With all of this, how then can we possibly fail?

Idols that substitute for God
Idols that distract from God
Idols that confuse us about God

***Blessed assurance does not make falling impossible,
But it does make not falling possible***



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*"Blessed
Assurance"*

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