

"Are you sure you are saved?"

1 John 5:13

Introduction: This morning we are going to look at a message from 1 John. The most important decision you will ever make in your life is your decision concerning where you will spend eternity. Your body will one day die but your soul will never die. You will live forever in one of two places. Either the Lake of Fire or the Eternal State.

Revelation 20:11-15

¹¹ *And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.*

¹² *And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*

¹³ *And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.*

¹⁴ *And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.*

¹⁵ *And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

Revelation 21:1-4

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

² *And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

³ *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

⁴ *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

In the message today it is my desire to help you to be sure you will spend eternity in the Eternal State/ the new heaven and the new earth.

I. John's Declaration

Notice 1 John 5:13

If we can figure out what John is referring to here then we can know for sure that we have eternal life. When John refers to "these things" this is not a sweeping statement that takes us back to the beginning of this letter. If that were the case then the theme of this letter would be "ETERNAL LIFE" and how to know we have it. That is the theme of his Gospel.

John 20:30-31

³⁰ *And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:*

³¹ *But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.*

The theme of 1 John is not salvation but it is fellowship.

1 John 1:1-3

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

² *(For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us:)*

³ *That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.*

Here we see the theme is fellowship not salvation. So, what is John referring to in 5:13?

Notice 1 John 5:6-8

Here John refers to three witnesses that testify that Jesus is the Son of God and He is the Savior of the world.

Background:

Let me pause and explain what John is doing here. There was a teaching in John's Day that was being circulated that said Jesus was Divine but the Divine part of Him departed before the cross, which left Him as a normal man when He died. This is exactly what John is correcting here. He points to three witnesses here that testify that Jesus Christ was God in the flesh.

➤ **The Water - His baptism.**

Matthew 3:16-17

¹⁶ And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

¹⁷ And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

➤ **The Blood - His death.**

Matthew 27:50-54

⁵⁰ Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

⁵¹ And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

⁵² And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

⁵³ And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

⁵⁴ Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

Notice 1 John 5:9-12

We accept the witness of man but the witness of God is greater. God gave witness that His Son came to be the Savior of the world. Jesus was fully God and He was fully man and He went to the cross and He died in our place. When we trust in Him as our Savior, we are then given eternal life. If we have the Son, we have life but if we do not then we are still dead in our sins. THIS IS WHAT JOHN IS REFFERING TO IN 5:13.

John 3:36

³⁶ *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

The point John is making is that if your faith is in Jesus Christ then no matter what anyone says you are saved. God's Word is the final Word. False teachers may say that Jesus' divinity left Him before the cross but God tells us that is not the case. He was fully God and therefore His death on the cross was the accepted payment for our sins.

II. What are you trusting in for forgiveness?

Let me explain some Truth to you.

1. You are guilty of sin.

Romans 3:23

²³ *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

2. All your sin MUST be paid for before you die.

Romans 6:23a

²³ *For the wages of sin is death;*

Every sin you have ever committed in your life is on your account and it MUST be paid for before you die.

3. You cannot earn the forgiveness of sin.

Isaiah 64:6

⁶ *But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

⁹ *Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

Your church membership will not save you. Baptism will not save you. Good works will not save you. It does not matter if you are better than your neighbor.

Romans 2:1-6, 16

Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

² *But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things.*

³ *And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?*

⁴ *Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

⁵ *But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;*

⁶ *Who will render to every man according to his deeds:*

¹⁶ *In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.*

4. God requires a blood sacrifice to pay for your sins.

Hebrews 9:22

²² *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

Let me show you something from the life of Adam and Eve.

Genesis 37, 21

⁷ *And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.*

²¹ *Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.*

God would not accept the fig leaves which they used but instead God required innocent animals to die in their place. It had to be a blood sacrifice.

5. Jesus was the sacrifice who died for our sins.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Are you sure of your salvation?

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³ For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures:

⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

When Jesus died, He died for you. He took your place on the cross.

Isaiah 53:5-7, 10-11

⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

¹⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

¹¹ He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

Jesus died for you and now God offers to you forgiveness of sin. Your responsibility is to REPENT and BELIEVE Jesus died in your place.

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Conclusion:

John 14:6

⁶ Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.