

21S11 Part 9 study of 1 John 5:6-13

Hello everyone. Thank you for joining me today @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. So, get comfortable, get your coffee or tea or water and settle in for our talk.

I hope everyone is doing well.

Today we are continuing our study of 1st John. Some say 1 John 5:6-13 can be summarized as God's Witness.

Remember before we start reading the bible we need to remember the background of 1st John. The author is the Apostle John. Most scholars believe it was written in AD85-90. The main themes in 1st John are,

- True Teaching, True Living and True Loving
- Encourage Christian who are being persecuted (who/why it was written to and what was happening in History). Christians were being persecuted by the Romans, by the Jews and pretty much very other group.
- We can Trust "who Jesus is"
- Jesus is both man & God - ignore false teachers who deny
- Correct the wrong ideas about Jesus
- Correct idea about what is good and evil which lead to the lack of morality in the church

Today we are going to study 1st John 5:6-13.

But before we get started I want to ask you a couple questions. Do you think there are a lot of pretenders in church – that is people with insincere faith? Statistics show that less than half of regular church goers are sure whether they will spend eternity with God in heaven. Why do so few have assurance?

John is writing to churches hearing competing truth claims, John stresses the certainties of our faith: Jesus really is who He claims to be. We can trust Him. Those who trust Him, really do have Eternal Life.

Well I want you to ponder these questions as we read 1 John 5:6-13. I'm reading from the NKJV. *⁶This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one. ⁹If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which He has testified of His Son. ¹⁰He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. ¹²He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. ¹³These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*

Cerinthus was an influential first-century heretic who taught that God's Spirit only came on Jesus at his water baptism and then departed at his bloody death. How does this shed light on verses 6-8? It is important to understand that in Jesus' day, you needed at least two witnesses in court. John is providing witnesses that Jesus is who He said He was, because of the witnesses the water, the blood and the Spirit. There is some debate about exactly what John means but most scholars believe "the Water" is Baptism, "the blood" is the Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and "the Spirit" is the Holy Spirit although some believe it's the resurrection. Either way, John is assuring these early followers of Jesus. The message of Jesus can be trusted.

What does it mean to "have" the Son of God (v.12)? Have is used to convey the need to have hold of Jesus. Or in other words have a relationship with Jesus. Those that have Jesus as there savior and lord have eternal life. Those that don't have a relationship with Jesus do not have life.

How can a person know he or she has eternal life? If you are following Jesus. Then you have eternal life. I believe that our objective as a Christian or follower of Jesus is to follow Jesus. Do what He asks us to do, Say what He asks us to say, Live like He asks us to live. Eternal life is a free gift that followers of Jesus get. One of many benefits we get for following the King of kings. Plus we get to be a child of God.

What's the difference between "wages" and a "free gift" (see Romans 6:23) (Romans 6:23) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Wages are what we are owed for our work or deeds, gift is given to you. God is not obligated to give us eternal life. He gives us this free gift as His adopted children. Followers of Jesus.

It is reported that the infamous serial killer-cannibal Jeffrey Dahmer trusted Christ while in prison. If that is true, is it fair that someone like him should get to go to heaven? Cases like this are hard to talk about because they go against our earthly human since of being better than someone else. How can someone who committed such horrible things get into heaven. All I can say is, its up to God. I was a horrible sinner and I deserved punishment. But Jesus forgave me, He paid the price for my sins. I became born again. No matter what you did before that, if you truly repent and believe, then yes you will be in heaven.

What would you say to the person who argues that there are many ways to God, many paths to eternal life, and that all religions are basically saying the same thing using different terminology? Well I personally don't follow a religion. I follow King Jesus. And all other religions are works religions. They think you have to earn your way into heaven. But eternal life is achieved by believing in Jesus, it's a free gift to all who follow Jesus. As Christians, we don't do good works to earn our way into heaven. Our good works are done to show the world how much Jesus loves them. Our good works are not for us, we just follow Jesus and leave the outcomes up to the King Jesus.

I recommend reading the following passages about free gift of eternal life in your personal study this week,

- John 5:24
- Romans 3:22-25
- Ephesians 2:8-9
- Timothy 1:14-16
- Revelation 7:9-17

Next week we will finishing our study of 1st John with 1 John 5:14-21 Living in the Fellowship

Let's Pray.

Thank you Lord for your word the Bible. Thank you for the assurance you give us in the Bible. I will trust in you Lord because You are the only one worthy of my trust. I will love you Lord because You are the only one worthy of my love. I will follow your commands because You are the only one who knows what is best for me.

Use me Lord for your will, to show others that You alone are worthy. Many may ask Why be a Christian? I say to them, I follow the only one who is worthy. My Lord, My Savior, My Friend.

I pray this in your name, Jesus Amen

Thank you for joining me for Students @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please select like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or mail me at kip@punla.org. I appreciate your feedback.

Until next time @ the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.