

1 John 5:13-21 – That you might know

Do you have assurance of eternal life?

1 John 5:13, “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.”.

So far

... a message concerning the word of Life.

... everything to do with Jesus

... purified them of their sins

... their atoning sacrifice.

... God has lavished his love on them and so now they can be confident before God on judgement day.

... simply need to confess sin and God, who is faithful and just, will forgive them their sin and cleanse them from all unrighteousness.

... the assurance of eternal life that the gospel brings does not mean we indulge sin

1) Assurance and prayer

1 John 5:14... we can approach God in prayer with confidence.

... BOTH hear and answer our prayers.

... according to his will

2) Assurance and prayer for those who sin

... Christians who have been saved and their struggle with sin.

1 John 5:16 ... ‘sins that lead to death’ and ‘sins that do not lead to death’.

... misused by denominations

- a way to work out what the really bad sins are

... what does John mean

i) some sin literally ‘kills you’

... Annanias and Saphira in Act 5:1-11

ii) ... an accidental sin that you can do that excludes you from eternity.

iii) ... the rejection of Jesus as one who has come in the flesh as the means of our salvation.

... urges us not to pray for ungodly actions of those who have rejected Jesus in this

way

... keen for us to pray for this who are struggling with sin as followers of Jesus

Does the mention of a sin that leads to death undermine your assurance?

... Assurance is about remaining in Jesus as the one who has paid the debt of your sin as you struggle against sin and in the face of falling into sin that you turn back to Jesus as the one who can cleanse you (yet again).

For us today

i) Living for Jesus with assurance today looks like...

1 John 5:21 “Keep yourselves from idols”.

ii) Assurance and prayer