

FIRST JOHN STUDY

CHAPTER 3:19-24

TAPE NUMBER WN-281 JANUARY 12, 2000

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“The Christian’s Assurance”

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 John 1:3

“that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”

TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Assurance, God’s Love, Brotherly Love

I John 3:19-24

And by this **we know** that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.
²⁰ For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. ²¹

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. ²² And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. ²³ And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. ²⁴ Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this **we know** that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

In Our Last Study Together...

I John 3:16-18

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸ My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

We Saw in Verses **9-15**
That There is **Proof** of the Divine Birth

- We've Been **Born** of God,
- Now Having the **Love** of God,
- We Are Living the **Life** of God

We Saw Also That In Verses **16-18**
That We Have The **Definition** of the Divine Birth

...and that was the real love of God

1.) We're to Live a **Redemption** Love vv. 16

1a.) We Know **What** is Truth

By this we **know** love,

1b.) We Have an **Example** of this Truth

because He **laid** down His life for us.

1c.) We Know What to **Do With** the Truth

And we **also** ought to lay down our lives
for the brethren.

2.) We Know That **Selfishness is Offensive** to Christ vv. 17

2a.) Riches Can be **Tools** in the Hand of God

But whoever has this world's goods,

2b.) **Indifference** can Rob the Richest Man

and **sees** his brother in need,
and **shuts up** his heart from him,

2c.) **Generosity** is a Spiritual Indicator

how does the love of God **abide** in him?

3.) The Truth of God Cannot (will not) Sit Idle vv. 18

My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue,
but in deed and in truth.

3a.) His Truth Abides in Us

My little children,

3b.) His Truth is not just Conceptual

let us not love in **word** or in **tongue**,
but in **deed** and in **truth**.

God's Children Rejoice in doing the Truth

1.) His Truth Builds our Confidence vv. 19-21

And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.
20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.
21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

1a.) **Confidence** Before the Throne of God

Verse 19

And **by this we know** that we are of the truth,
and shall assure our hearts before Him.



Know

GRK 1097 ginosko (ghin-oce'-ko);

To KNOW EXPERINCIALY to be aware of, to have rightly perceived, be resolved, can speak, be sure, to understand.

John 8:32

And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

John 8:36

"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

The Fact Is;
The Truth is now in us - - and we can tell!



"The Truth"

GRK aletheia (al-ay'-thi-a);

that which is true and absolute, and sure



Assure

GRK 3982 peitho (pi'-tho);

to be convinced by arguments of truth, true or false. To be persuaded, to yield to the greater power. = *(assurance)*



Heart

GRK Kardia

The thoughts, the emotions, the middle (soul) of the man

2 Peter 1:10-11

Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; ¹¹ for so **an entrance** will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Entrance

GRK 1529 eisodos (ice'-od-os)

1519- eis = abundant, large, a great deal

3598 - hodos = a wide roadway, a large highway

Acts 7:55-56 KJV

But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus **standing** on the right hand of God, ⁵⁶ And said, **Behold, I see the heavens opened**, and the Son of man **standing** on the right hand of God.

It's With Great Excitement That Jesus Stands

II Kings 2:11

Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

1b.) **Confidence** In Spite of Ourselves

Verse 20

For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart,
and knows all things

Our Feelings and Thoughts Often
Get the Best of Us

Our Feelings and Thoughts Often
Get the Best of God As Well

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked:
who can know it?

For if our heart condemns us

John 3:17

"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Romans 8:1a

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk

Our Liberty in Christ

1 Corinthians 4:3-4

But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴ For I know nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord.

**I Remember Struggling Over My Salvation
Being Unsure – Even Fearing I Was Lost!**

Matthew 26:69-75

Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee." ⁷⁰ But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you are saying." ⁷¹ And when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁷² But again he denied with an oath, "I do not know the Man!" ⁷³ And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you." ⁷⁴ Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" And immediately a rooster crowed. ⁷⁵ And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly.

Mark 16:5-7a

And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶ But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. ⁷ "But go, tell His disciples-- and Peter

Jack, You Think Too Much!

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

1c.) Confidence Continually Before Him

Verse 21

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us,
we have confidence toward God.

Romans 10:17 KJV

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

We have **confidence** toward God.

Hebrews 5:13-14

For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Hebrews 10:22

let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

When We Recognize Our Assurance in Jesus Christ, We Can Move On in Confidence Because Our Hearts are “Over Ruled”

2.) His Truth Encourages Us to **Pray**

vv. 22

And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

2a.) **Prayer** Keeps Us Connected to Him

Verse 22

And whatever we ask - we receive from Him,
because we keep His commandments

1-800-Jeremiah 33:3

'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

Prayer + Obedience = Answers

Mark 11:24

"Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

1 Timothy 2:8

I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

2b.) Prayer Keeps Us Doing in the Spirit

Verse 22

and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

Galatians 5:16-18

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

In God's Realm

Love Fuels Our Obedience Which Leads to Freedom & Liberty

In Man's Realm

Fear Fuels Our Obedience Which Leads to Bondage & Legalism

Romans 6:13-14

Do not let any part of your bodies become tools of wickedness, to be used for sinning; but give yourselves completely to God-- every part of you-- for you are back from death and you want to be tools in the hands of God, to be used for his good purposes. ¹⁴ Sin need never again be your master, for now you are no longer tied to the law where sin enslaves you, but you are free under God's favor and mercy.

Does God Always Hear Our Prayers?

Isaiah 59:1-2

Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. ² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

Psalm 66:18

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.

1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, dwell with your wives with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

(Cut off, stopped in mid flight)

The Christian's Heart

Matthew 6:14-15

"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵

"But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

We Must Forgive, We Want to Forgive BECAUSE WE UNDERSTAND FORGIVENESS

There are Two Secrets to Answered Prayer

#1

Obey the word

Psalm 37:4

Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

#2

Pray The Word

John 15:7

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. ²⁴ Now he who keeps His commandments **abides** in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He **abides** in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

- The Means is Obedience - *in Love*
- The Evidence is Love - *for One Another*
 - The Goal is Abiding - *in Christ*

3a.) We've Been **Guaranteed** Salvation

Verse 23

And this is His commandment:
that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ

The Old Testament Believer
Was Saved By Looking Ahead To God's Salvation
(The law could never save a man)

Deuteronomy 10:12b-13

¹²....what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ "and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good?

1 John 3:23

Fulfills What is Required in Deuteronomy 10:12-13

And this is His commandment:
that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ

Habakkuk 2:4b

the just shall live by his faith.

Concerning the Love of God

I Have Seen People Who Are Doctrinal Correct, But Are Socially or
Practically Incorrect

To Those Who Are Christians;

What You Know..... Should Led to Greater Visible Love

- Theologians Know Doctrine
- Pastors Are Teachers of the Word
- And Evangelist Tell the World

BUT UNLESS LOVE COMES FORTH FROM THEM
THEY ARE WORTHLESS IN MINISTRY

William Barkley Said

"Give me a man who has a pitiful grasp of doctrine, a man who could never argue his way out of a theological bag for why he is a Christian, a man biblically slow, but a man who shows forth the love of God in his actions and I will show you a man headed for **heaven**. while the refined, orthodox pastor who is critical of others and unapproachable to many, misses heaven all together."

2 Corinthians 5:14

For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus:
that if One died for all, then all died;

Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

This is What Jesus was Stressing
in the Upper Room Teaching of;

John 15:1-14

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are

the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. 9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. 10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. 11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. 12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. 14 You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.

This Issue Here is Not Salvation, But Fruit Bearing

Matthew 19:16

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"

John 6:29

Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

3b.) We've Been **Guaranteed** Fellowship

Verse 23

and love one another, as He gave us commandment

True Christian Fellowship

Romans 8:14-16

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

Galatians 5:6

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

1 Peter 1:22

Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,

3c.) We've Been Guaranteed Redemption

Verse 24

Now he (Jack) who keeps His (the Lord's) commandments abides in Him (in Christ), and He (The Lord) in him (Jack). And by this we know that He (Jesus) abides in us, by the Spirit whom He (Jesus) has given us.

#1

Now **he (Jack)** who keeps **His (the Lord's)** commandments abides in **Him (in Christ)**

#2

and **He (The Lord)** in **him (Jack)**.

#3

And by this we know that **He (Jesus)** abides in us, by the Spirit whom **He (Jesus)** has given us.

Ephesians 1:12-14a

that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. ¹³ In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance

**There is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit
into the Body of Christ at Salvation**

1 Corinthians 12:13

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-- whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free-- and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

And Then There is the Baptism of Jesus Christ With The Holy Spirit **after Salvation**

Acts 4:31

And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

The Indwelling and Empowering Holy Spirit

John 14:13-18

And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. ¹⁵ "If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

And by this we know that He (Jesus) abides in us, by the Spirit whom He (Jesus) has given us...

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

Dr. A.E. Wilder-Smith

Conducted a fifteen-year study on the Civil Mind verses the Criminal Mind
And found that in nearly every case the criminally minded person was raised in a
unloving, undisciplined, fatherless home where a grandparent or mother had to
provide in every way which led to neglect

Proverbs 29:15 BSB

The rod of correction imparts wisdom,
but a child left to himself disgraces his mother.