

## Blessed Assurance | 1 John 5:6-21

---

*What are the things you are most confident about in life? For each of these things, on what is your confidence based?*

READ 1 JOHN 5:1-5

1. In the opening verses of chapter 5, John has been speaking of the opposition that God's people face from the world. On what basis have we 'overcome the world' (vv. 1-5)?

READ 1 JOHN 5:6-12

2. John now takes us from the world (vv. 1-5) to the courtroom (vv. 6-12) in order to think about the basis for the confidence we have in Jesus. What are the three voices that testify in our defence (v.7)? And how do each of these three voices point first and foremost to Jesus (c.f. John 1:32-34; 19:31-37)?
3. What is the testimony that God has given (vv. 11-12)? What does it mean to not only 'have' this life not only in the *future* but also in the *present*?

READ 1 JOHN 5:13-21

4. John writes these things so that we may know that we have eternal life (v. 13). How does this confidence impact the following three areas:
  - a. Confidence in prayer to God (vv. 13-15)?
  - b. Confidence in care for one another (vv. 16-17)?
  - c. Confidence in our knowledge of God in Christ (vv. 18-20)?
5. Why do you think John includes verse 21 as the final words of his letter? Even as God's people, in what ways might we still be tempted to keep hold of idols today?

**Group Reflection:** Have a quick flick back through the whole of 1 John. Once you're done, take turns in sharing something from the letter that has:

- changed the way you think (*head*)
- changed the way you feel (*heart*)
- changed the way you live (*hands*)

*Thank God for the blessed assurance that we have in Christ!*