

# Beginning with Christ

## Assurance of Salvation

I John 5:11-12

by LeRoy Eims



“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life” (I John 5:11-12).

When the Apostle John speaks of eternal life, he has something in mind that is completely different from the mere idea of existence after death. Many religions teach that life goes on after it has ended on this earth. It is true that our soul will live on. When God breathed into man the breath of life, man became a living soul. God breathed eternity into his life. Unlike the animals, our life will go on.

However, the question at hand is this: In what way will it go on? In a state of eternal life, or eternal death? That is the issue. What then, is eternal death? John himself tells us. Let me quote from the New International Version of the New Testament: “But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters, and all liars - their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death” (Revelation 21:8).

Eternal life is just the opposite: “Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, but is now made manifest by the appearing of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel” (II Timothy 1:9, 10).

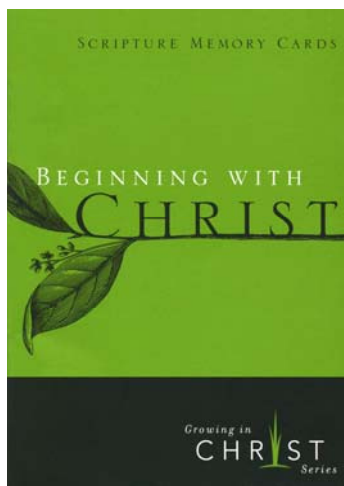
What a contrast! An eternity of fellowship with God, or an eternity separated from Him. When John says that eternal life is a gift of God in Jesus Christ, he is making a tremendous statement. It cannot be earned, we will never merit it or deserve it, but it can be ours in Christ.

What then does the Apostle mean when he says, “He that hath the son?” Who is he talking about? How is that possible?

Quite simply, he is referring to all those who by faith have the Son of God, by His blessed Holy Spirit, dwelling in their hearts. The conditions are simple. Paul speaks of it when he said he had spent his life: “Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 20:21).

Sin is leading you further and further from God in a state of endless separation. God calls upon you to turn to Him, to leave the path of death and darkness, and walk in the light of love, grace and mercy. God commands all men everywhere to repent, turn to God and do works fit for repentance.

The second condition is faith in our Lord Jesus Christ for He is our way to God. Sin must be abandoned and forsaken and Christ must be trusted for pardon and forgiveness. He is our only Redeemer and Savior. Therefore, “He that hath the Son hath life and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” Turn to Him today and receive God's unspeakable gift - eternal life in Christ.



This vital Bible verse is just one of 5 carefully selected scriptures that are contained in the [Beginning with Christ](#) Scripture memory pack. This short booklet is great for explaining the basics of salvation and the Christian life. Topics include Assurance of Salvation, Answered Prayer, Victory Over Sin, Forgiveness, and Guidance. This is one of the very best tools available to help someone get off to a good start as a follower of Jesus Christ. The text can be read in only a few minutes, but it covers all the bases and gives plenty of Scripture references. It includes tear-out Scripture memory cards with 5 key Bible verses in both KJV and NIV. It's the perfect way to introduce new believers to the 60-verse [Topical Memory System](#) without overwhelming them. May God bless you as you fill your life with His Word!