

# THE BLESSED ASSURANCE OF BELONGING TO GOD

Sunday, April 10, 2022 -- 1<sup>st</sup> JOHN series -- Msg 32 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

1<sup>st</sup> JOHN 5:18-21

English Standard Version (ESV)

18 **We know** that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

19 **We know** that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

20 And **we know** that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that **we may know** him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

## REVIEW: JOHN ASSURES TRUE BELIEVERS...

- vs 13 -- True Believers can know that they have eternal life.
- vs 15 -- True Believers can know that God hears them.
- vs 15 -- True Believers can know that God answers prayer.
- vs 18 -- True Believers can know that God has delivered them from sin & Satan.
- vs 19 -- True Believers can know 'whose kingdom they are in'.
- vs 20 -- Easter Sunday -- final msg from 1<sup>st</sup> John! True Believers can know...

## NOTICE that there are TWO VERY DIFFERENT 'KINGDOMS' in the world. vs 19

- The realm of God
- The realm of Satan

JOHN 8:39-47 [JESUS Confronts the Jewish Religious Establishment]

39 They answered him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, 40 but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. 41 You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God." 42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44 **You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? 47 Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."**

JAMES 4:4 [JAMES Confronts the Church's Ungodliness]

*You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*

19 **We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.**

**NOTICE that true believers are from God and are not of this world.**

**PHILIPPIANS 3:17-21** [PAUL also Declares the Different Kingdoms]

17 Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. 18 For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. 20 **But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,** 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

**JOHN 15:18-19** [JESUS Explains the World's Rejection of His People]

18 "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; **but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world,** therefore the world hates you."

**NOTICE that SATAN is on his leash.** vs 18 b  
and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one

**EPHESIANS 2:1-3**

1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, **following the prince of the power of the air,** the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

**EPHESIANS 6:10-12**

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the **schemes of the devil**. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over **this present darkness**, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

**NOTICE that true believers can/need to be assured and grow in knowledge and obedience as citizens in God's Kingdom.**

**COLOSSIANS 1:9-14** [PAUL Encourages the True Church]

9 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, **10** so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; **11** being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; **12** giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. **13** He has delivered us from the **domain of darkness** and transferred us to the **kingdom of his beloved Son,** **14** in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

19 *We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.*

### CONSIDER GOD'S PRESENT and COMING KINGDOM...

- God's kingdom is entered through redemption and forgiveness in Christ.
- God's kingdom has come, and it is coming more. ('the already' and 'the not yet')
- God's kingdom involves this intermediate state of faith.
- God's kingdom will be consummated in the final state.

### SEE THAT CHRIST'S DEATH ON THE CROSS BREAKS SATAN'S POWER!

JOHN 8:39-47

[THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY to JERUSALEM -- PALM SUNDAY]

12 The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 13 So they took **branches of palm trees** and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" 14 And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

15 "Fear not, daughter of Zion;  
behold, your king is coming,  
sitting on a donkey's colt!" (from Zechariah 9:9)

16 His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. 17 The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. 18 The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. 19 So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

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27 "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." 29 The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." 30 Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." 33 He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. 34 So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" 35 So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. 36 While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."

### APPLICATION TO YOUR LIFE:

- 1) True Christians can KNOW that they are of God's kingdom by faith in Christ's death on the cross for their sins. Rejoice and grow in His kingdom. Reject Satan's kingdom!
- 2) Non-Christians are invited to 'believe in the light, that you may become sons of the light.' Repent and believe on Christ the Light and be saved from the power of the evil one.