

Are you confident? What's the source of your confidence? Has vour confidence ever been shaken? How can we live with confidence?

I live with real confidence when I know God.

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. I John 5:13

THE AUTHOR:

The beloved witness named John

John was a <u>pastor</u>.

And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming. I John 2:28

THE AUDIENCE:

People whose confidence was shaken

- Persecution
- Death of the Apostles
- Those abandoning the faith
- The claims of secret knowledge and special experience
- Divided extremes

GNOSTICS BELLEVE:

The physical doesn't matter.

Jesus was just a spirit and only appeared to be a man. The laws (rules) don't matter as long as we're spiritual.

JUDALZERS BELIEVE:

The physical is all that matters. Jesus was just a man whose purpose was to get us to obey the laws (rules).

John was a witness.

We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. 4We write this to make our joy complete. I John 1:3-4

John had a purpose.

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. I John 5:13

THE WRITINGS OF JOHN:

John must be understood and applied in light of ALL John's writings.

John is written thematically. - I John

FELLOWSHIP – 3 times **CONFIDENCE – 4 times** KNOW - 32 times SPIRIT - 7 times LIGHT - 5 times LOVE - 45 times

John believes in

a personal love relationship with God. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. John 17:3

> True confidence is found through a living love relationship with God through the power of the Holy Spirit. This relationship produces the fruit of righteous behavior, love for God and people, and a belief in the historical Jesus.

NEXT STEPS