

Fundamentals 19 - Keep yourselves from idols

6 This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit, the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement. 9 We accept human testimony, but God's testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. 10 Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. 11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

16 If you see any brother or sister commit a sin that does not lead to death, you should pray and God will give them life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that you should pray about that. 17 All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death. 18 We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the One who was born of God keeps them safe, and the evil one cannot harm them. 19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. 20 We know also 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 by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.1 John 5:6-21

13 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. 1 John 5:13

Right belief in Jesus always leads to significantly changed attitudes and actions.

John wants us to know that we have eternal life in Jesus because our hearts yearn for this knowledge.

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Without Jesus at the core of motivations, even good things like justice and mercy can become matters of pride and arrogance.

Irreligious attempts to fix the ills of society eliminate the necessity of personal accountability before God and the need for genuine individual repentance.

19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one. 1 John 5:19

Satan's goal is to depopulate Heaven and if he can create a world where we act moral but still show ambivalence toward our creator he will be successful.

What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self? Luke 9:25

"Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; Genesis 11:4

21 Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.1 John 5:21