

Confidence before God
1 John 5:14-21

I. Confidence in Prayer – 5:14-17

We Know that God answers prayer

1. Loving Father hears His children – 14-15
He gives us what He knows is best for us
Luke 11:9-13; Romans 8:28
He responds according to His will for us
Jesus prayed “not my will but your will be done”
Jesus taught us to pray for God’s will to be done
We can know that He will meet our need
Philippians 4:19
2. Hears when we pray for others – 16-17
Encouraged to pray for a sinning brother
James encourages in same way – James 5:16-20
There may be limits but this is the exception
God reserves right to do what is best for His cause
In some cases it might mean death for the sinner
When one willfully persists in sin God may remove
that one

ii. Confidence in Temptation – 5:18-19

We Know that God has provided for Victory

1. Born of God, with His nature – 2 Pet.1:4
New nature from God does not sin – 1 Jn. 3:9
If we sin it is because we yield to old nature
2. God has provided for victory over Satan
Christ defeated him at the cross – Col. 2:13
3. No longer in Satan’s realm – Eph. 2:1-6
We now live in God’s kingdom
Christ in us is greater than Satan – 1 John 4:4
We do not need to yield to Satan’s control

III. Confidence in Christ – 5:20-21

Jesus Christ meets all of our needs - 20

1. He is the incarnate Son of God
He became man to reconcile us to God
2. He has given us understanding
He is truth and has revealed God to us
We find truth in Jesus Christ
3. We are in Christ, God’s Son
We have a personal relationship with Him
4. Jesus Christ is we the true God
We have no need for idols or other gods
5. He has given to us eternal life - 20
In Him is eternal life and we are in Him

Knowing true God keeps us from idols - 21

What is false has nothing to offer us
We know the true God and what is true
How foolish when we worship idols
An idol is anything that is first place in our life