

## 1 John: The Signs of Life

## 1:1-2:2 Summary (“Fellowship”)

- 1:1-4, Objective: Fellowship
- 1:5-2:2, Obstacle: Sin

## 2:3-5:12, Exposition (“Know”)

## 2:3-28, First Panel

- :3-6, Righteousness
- :7-17, Love
- :18-28, Belief

## 2:29-4:6, Second Panel

- 2:29-3:10, Righteousness
- 3:11-24, Love
- 4:1-6, Belief

## 4:7-5:12, Third Panel

- 4:7-18, Love
- 4:19-5:4, Righteousness
- 5:5-12, Belief

## 5:13-21, Closing Summary

- 13, Belief
- 14-17, Boldness
- 18-21, Knowledge

# The Third Panel of Signs

## Things to Look For

- What evidence does John give for the doctrine that Jesus is the Son of God in each panel?
- Which of the three signs is most in focus in each panel? In the entire book?
- What three mental states does John describe in the conclusion?
- Which sign of life does each emphasize?
- What is eternal life, according to John?
- 5:13a says that the readers have already believed. So why does John write “that ye may believe” in 13b?

# Summary of the Sign of Belief

	2:18-28	4:1-6	5:5-12
Vocabulary	Anointing, Abide Christ, Son (of God)	Spirit(s) Son (of God)	+Witness, Belief
Key Doctrine	Jesus = Christ; Father and Son	Jesus Christ is come in the flesh	Jesus is the Son of God
Evidence	19 Abiding (in Christ, and in the assembly)	6 Hearing those who are of God (the apostles)	7-8 Testimony of the Spirit, baptism, and the Lord's Table

**Panel 1: 2:19**  
They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

**Panel 2: 4:6** **We** are of God: he that knoweth God heareth **us**; he that is not of God heareth not **us**. Hereby know **we** the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.  
1Jn 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which **we** have heard, which **we** have seen with our eyes, which **we** have looked upon, and **our** hands have handled, of the Word of life; 2 (For the life was manifested, and **we** have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto **us**;) 3 That which **we** have seen and heard declare **we** unto **you**, that **ye** also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things write we unto **you**, that **your** joy may be full.

**Panel 3:**  
5:7 For there are three that bear record, 8 the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.



Acts 1:21-22

21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in out among us,

22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

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# The Body of 1 John

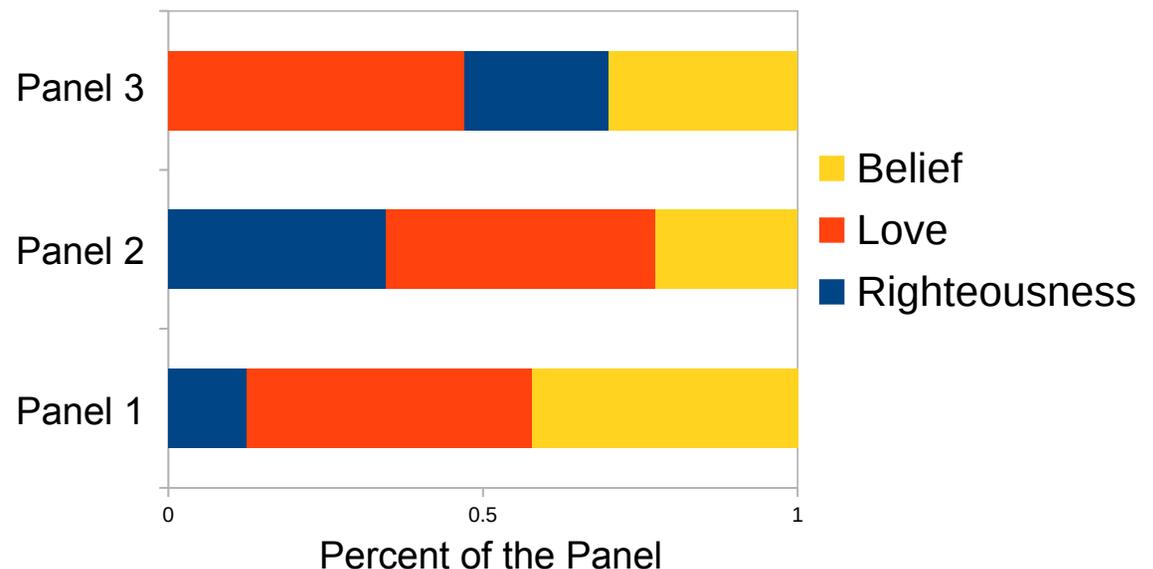
## Two Purposeful Books

1Jn 5:13 **These things have I written** unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know** that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Jhn 20:31 **But these are written, that ye might believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

## Emphasis on Love

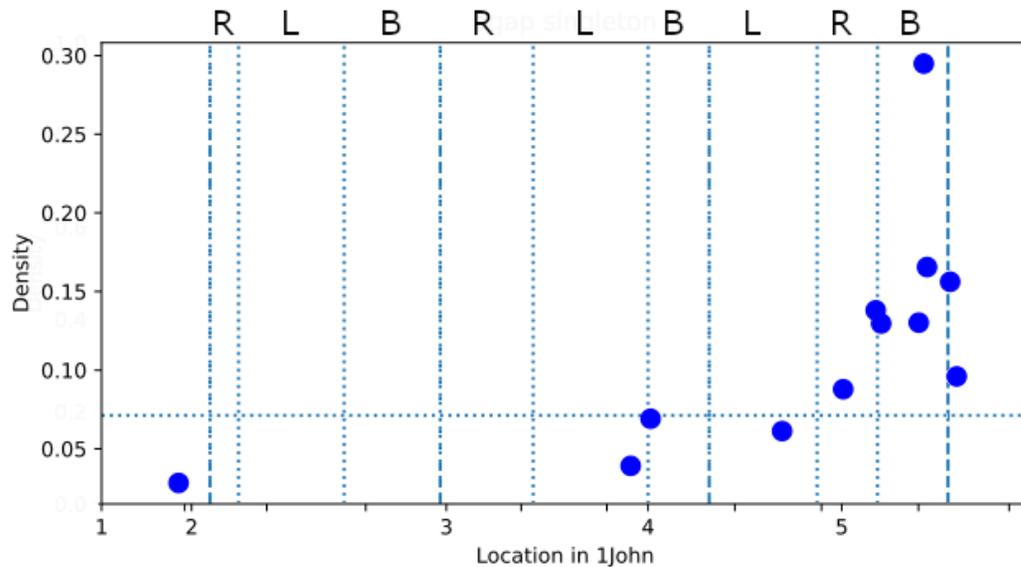
Jhn 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.



# Conclusion: Three Mental States

## Know that you have Eternal Life

State	Verses	Sign
Belief	1 John 5:13	Belief
Confidence	1 John 5:14-17	Love
Knowledge	1John 5:18-22	Righteousness



“Believe,” “faith,” and “faithful” in 1 John

### Two Purposes:

- That ye may know that ye have eternal life
- That ye may believe

*Opening:* 1John 1:2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that **eternal life**, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

*Panel 1, Belief:* 1John 2:25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even (the) **eternal life**.

*Panel 3, Belief:* 1John 5:11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us **eternal life**, and this life is in his Son.

*Panel 2, Love:* 1John 3:15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath **eternal life** abiding in him. (*negative*)

*Conclusion:* 1John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and **eternal life**.

## 5:13b that ye may believe ...

... believe correctly, truly

Jas 2:19 Thou **believest** that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also **believe**, and tremble.

Jhn 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

1Jn 5:1 Whosoever **believeth** [present tense] that Jesus is the Christ is has been [perfect tense] born of God: ...

... continue to believe

Luk 8:13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which **for a while believe**, and in time of temptation fall away.

## 14-17 Confidence, Boldness (παρρησία *parrēsia* G3954)

First and Last Instances: Need for Confidence

1John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, **when he shall appear**, we may have **confidence**, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. *belief section*

1John 5:14 And this is the **confidence** that we have in him, that, **if we ask any thing** according to his will, he heareth us: *conclusion*

2nd and 3rd Love Sections: Source of Confidence

1Jn 3:18 My little children, **let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.** 19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall **assure our hearts** before him. ... 21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we **confidence** toward God. 22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

1Jn 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and **he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God**, and God in him. 17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have **boldness** in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

# Conditions for Prayer

“in my name ...”

Jhn 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall **ask in my name**, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Jhn 14:14 If ye shall **ask any thing in my name**, I will do it.

Jhn 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall **ask of the Father in my name**, he may give it you.

Jhn 16:23 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall **ask the Father in my name**, he will give it you.

Jhn 16:24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: **ask, and ye shall receive**, that your joy may be full.

Jhn 16:26 At that day ye shall **ask in my name**: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: 27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

“according to his will ...”

Mat 6:10 **Thy will be done** in earth, as it is in heaven.

Mat 26:42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, **thy will be done**.

An Example

1Ki 21:7 And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite. 8 So **she wrote letters in Ahab's name**, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth. 9 And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people: 10 And set two men, sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die.