

Review

Things to Look For

- What is the difference between the two words for “know” that John uses in describing our knowledge that we have eternal life?
- Which word does he use in describing most of the signs, and what difference does it make?
- Which member of the Godhead is in focus in each of the three signs?
- Which sign receives the most emphasis?
- How does our relation to God develop in successive sections about the sign of righteousness?
- How is the sign of belief related to the assembly of the believers?
- How does the motive for loving one another develop throughout the book?
- Does John expect his readers to satisfy all three signs completely as soon as they receive the Lord?
- What evidence is there elsewhere in the NT for progressive development of the signs?

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 Purpose of the Book (1)

Two Books, Two Purposes

Jhn 20:30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 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.

1Jn 5:13 **These things have I written** unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; **that ye may know (οἶδα *oida* G1492—perceive)** that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

What is Eternal Life?

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.

Jhn 17:3 And **this is life eternal**, that they might **know (γινώσκω *ginōskō* G1097—experience, in a relationship)** thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

1 John 5:20

King James Version

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.

What has Jesus Christ given to the believer, according to verse twenty?



The Purpose of the Book (2)

Two verbs “to know”

οἶδα *oida* G1492—state of knowledge:
perceive (e.g., through teaching)

γινώσκω *ginōskō* G1097—process:
experience, in a relationship

“we know that ...”—*oida*

1Jn 3:14 **We know that we have passed from death unto life**, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

1Jn 5:18 **We know** that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. 19 And **we know** that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. 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.

“we know that ...”—*ginōskō*

1Jn 2:3 And hereby **we do know that we know him**, if we keep his commandments.

1Jn 2:5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby **know we that we are in him**.

1Jn 3:19 And hereby **we know that we are of the truth**, and shall assure our hearts before him.

1Jn 3:24 And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby **we know that he abideth in us**, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

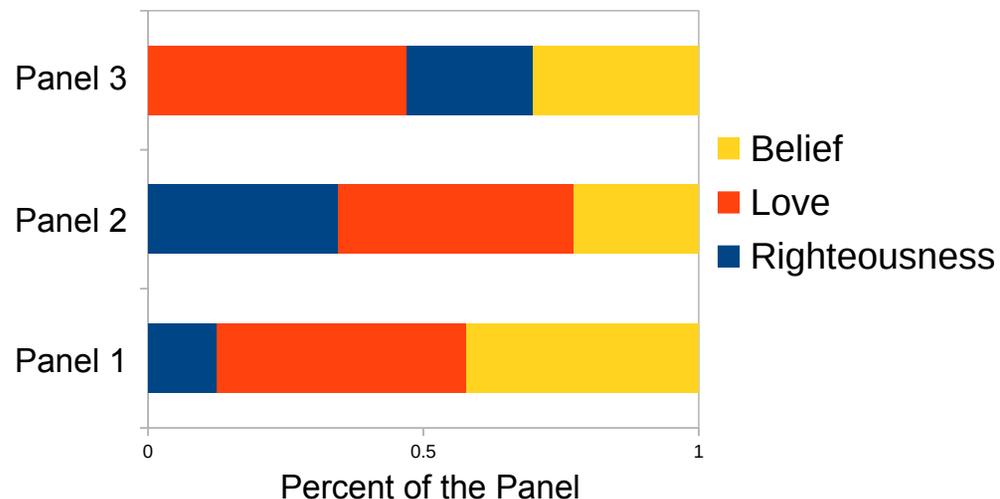
1Jn 4:13 Hereby **know we that we dwell in him**, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

The Process

2 Pet 3:18 ... **grow** in grace, and **in the knowledge** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The Three Signs

	Righteous -ness	Love	Belief
2:3-28	2:3-6	2:7-17	2:18-28
2:29-4:6	2:29-3:10	3:11-24	4:1-6
4:7-5:12	4:19-5:4	4:7-18	5:5-12
Focus	Father	Son	Spirit



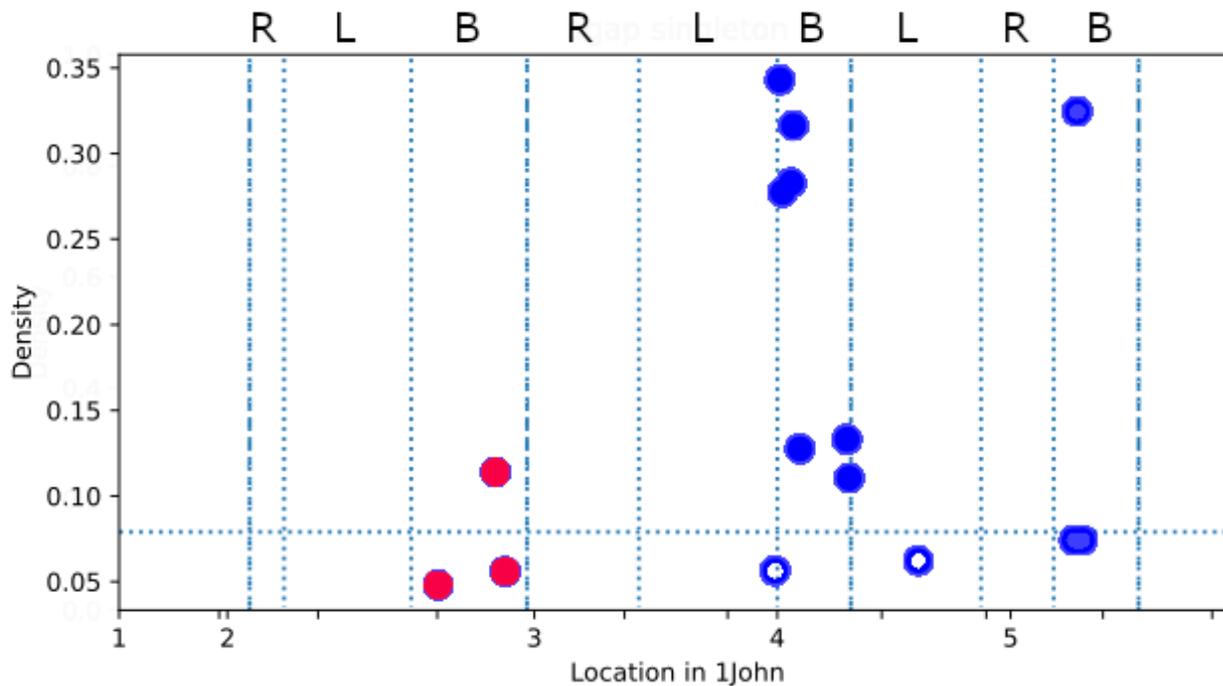
The Sign of Righteousness

	2:3-6	2:29-3:10	4:19-5:4
Vocabulary	Keep, Commandments	Child, Begotten	+ Love God
God's role	Lawgiver	Father	The Object of our Love

Focus: The Father
 1Jn 2:29 If ye know that **he is righteous**, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is **born of him**.

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



Focus: The Spirit
Red: anointing, unction
Blue: spirit

The Sign of Love

Focus: The Son

1Jn 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because **he laid down his life for us**: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

1John 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and **sent his Son** to be the propitiation for our sins.

	2:7-17	3:11-24	4:7-18
Motive	Obey the Commandment : walk in the light	Follow the Example	Reflect the Source : God is love
Contrast	Love brother vs. love the world	Cain vs. Christ	Born of God vs. Mutual Abiding
Assurance	Recognize victories: Sins forgiven, Satan overcome, Fellowship with Christ	God is greater than our heart	We are not of the world, so we are exempt from the last judgment

Dealing with Sin

Paul's Formulation of Christian Growth

1Co 2:14 But the **natural man** receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1 Co 2:15 But **he that is spiritual** judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

1Co 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto **carnal**, even as unto **babes in Christ**. 2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. 3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and **walk as men?**

Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: 28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may **present every man perfect [complete] in Christ Jesus:**

John's Explanation

Ref.	False Claim	Our Duty	God's Provision
1:6-7	We have fellowship (but walk in darkness)	Walk in the light	Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us
1:8-9	We have no sin	Confess our sins	God is faithful & just to forgive
1:10-2:2	We have not sinned	?	Jesus Christ is our advocate



1Jn 5:16 If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death.

Book Summary

God enables us to **know** that we participate in the eternal life of the Father and the Son by the righteous behavior, love toward one another, and orthodox belief that he generates within us, and to **maintain** that relationship even when we stumble.