

# Follow Christ Confidently

1John 4.17-5.12

October 24, 2021

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## Introduction

- What have we learned so far?
- John reminds them that
  - salvation is a beautiful thing
  - faith is \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ
  - following God comes with \_\_\_\_\_
  - there are people and agencies that will try to \_\_\_\_\_ our faith, but...

**Main Points:** We can follow Christ with confidence because there is...

1. No \_\_\_\_\_ – vs. 18 – “here is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.”
  - perfect \_\_\_\_\_ drives out all \_\_\_\_\_
  - there is no \_\_\_\_\_ -- John 3.18; Romans 8.1, 15
  - approach God with a \_\_\_\_\_ humility – you are loved
2. No \_\_\_\_\_ – 5.3 – “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.”
  - \_\_\_\_\_ God is not an onerous chore
  - Jesus carrying the cross
  - Matthew 11.29-30

3. No \_\_\_\_\_ – 5.6-8 – “<sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.”
  - there is no contradiction concerning Jesus – various interpretations have been offered:
    - i. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_,
    - ii. the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ at the crucifixion (John 19:34–35),
    - iii. the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ,
    - iv. or the termini of Christ’s ministry, his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
  - in any trial the credibility of the witness is everything
  - the OT standard was that multiple witnesses were required – Deuteronomy 17.6
    - i. Mark 14.59
    - ii. Jesus came to testify to the truth; Jesus was endorsed by the Father and is validated by the testimony of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.

## Conclusion

- the joy of being a follower of Christ is found in a relationship devoid of fear, burdens, or contradictions.

Amen.