

## 1 John 5

- IV. Provision for Fellowship: Faith in the \_\_\_\_\_ is the key to all 4:20–5:17
1. Faith accomplishes the \_\_\_\_\_ of love 4:20–5:4
  2. Faith \_\_\_\_\_ the testimony of the provision of God 5:5-13
  3. Faith intercedes through \_\_\_\_\_ prayer 5:14-17
- V. Epilogue: Knowledge of the \_\_\_\_\_ and eternal life deliver from error 5:18-21

**V. Provision for Fellowship:** Faith in the Son is the key to all (4:20–5:17).

Such an experience, and such an expectation, is not possible on one's own. This obedience and certitude must be effected by \_\_\_\_\_.

**A. Faith accomplishes the commandment of love (4:20–5:4).**

John summarizes the often repeated commandment to love the brethren in order to explore further the implications of such an expectation (4:20-21). It is through faith that one is born of God and, therefore, becomes responsible for \_\_\_\_\_ of His children (5:1-3). It is also by faith that such a commandment is carried out (5:4).

**B. Faith certifies the testimony of the provision of God (5:5-13).**

Faith always has an object, it is not simply a strong desire or resolution (e.g., to love as Christ loved). The object is Jesus, the \_\_\_\_\_, whom the Holy Spirit has certified as coming by water and blood, that is, being put forth as the Messiah at his baptism and dying as the Savior. The Spirit has given a certainty of this to the one who believes in Christ. The result is assurance of the possession of eternal life and the encouragement to continue to look to Christ as the enabling power in life (5:13).

**C. Faith intercedes through confident prayer (5:14-17).**

Faith is active in \_\_\_\_\_ when it petitions God for that which He purposes for the believer (5:14-15). Since the commandment of love has been the primary issue at hand in John's treatment of the abiding life, it is fitting that care for the life of the brethren rounds out the discussion. In this case love petitions God to give life to a brother who is sinning, so that his lawlessness will not necessitate his temporal demise, a case for which confidence in prayer is not assured (5:16-17).

## **VI. Epilogue: Knowledge of the true God and eternal life deliver from error (5:18-21).**

In another statement of review, John summarizes three certitudes that support his view of the way of fellowship with God. First, the believer, in his essence as a spiritual being, is \_\_\_\_\_ from the wicked one (5:18). Second, those who so live derive their ability from God (5:19). Third, the Son of God has come so that these things can be known, so that fellowship with God may become a \_\_\_\_\_(5:20). With such an exalted prospect, consideration of any other object of worship should be scarcely more than an afterthought (5:21).

### **Thesis Statement**

Fellowship with God will result in the \_\_\_\_\_ of love and produce confidence at Christ's coming.

### **Concluding Thoughts**

Eternal life is mankind's most precious \_\_\_\_\_. Through Jesus Christ this gift is both freely received and continually enjoyed. However, the initial reception does not guarantee a deep and satisfying enjoyment. The essence of this life is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God (cf. John 17:3). Coming to really know God is a life-long walk of fellowship, made possible by the One who revealed and provided such a relationship, \_\_\_\_\_. Hence, any defect in one's understanding of Jesus' person and work necessarily affects the quality, even possibility, of fellowship with him and his Father. John's letter to his dear spiritual children appraises and corrects just such a threat to the believer's day-to-day experience with God.