

## **Be Confident in This**

1 John

by Don Falkos

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There were several small assemblies of believers in the vicinity of Ephesus in Asia Minor overseen by John the Elder. These communities had lost some of their members, who no longer believed Jesus is the Messiah, the Anointed One of God. In fact, they never really believed in the first place. John called these people anti-Messiahs and deceivers. He wrote to the churches to reinforce true beliefs.

My children,

God is light. To live in relationship with God we must walk in the light. We must obey the commands of Jesus knowing that when we fail, Jesus forgives us. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of the whole world.

Jesus is our advocate before the Father; his forgiveness is assured. Jesus is our example; live as he lived. Jesus commanded us to love one another; so give up pride and lust. Jesus is our identity; we are all part of one family. Jesus is our hope; faithfulness to him will yield eternal life.

God is love. If we live in love, we are living in God. And since God loved us, we ought to love one another. The One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. So don't be afraid. Trust in God's love. Just as truth overcomes lies, love overcomes fear.

Be confident in this: God's love has brought us to eternal life through the crucified and risen Messiah.