

**Hopewell ARP Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, September 9, 2020**  
**Devotional on 1John 5:14**

*Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that  
if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.*

God is not a liar. He has testified truly concerning His Son (v9–10). He has testified truly that He has given us eternal life in that Son (v11). He has testified truly that he who has the Son has that life (v12). And, He has testified truly that we may have assurance of that eternal life (v13).

Every time we pray, we are to exercise and grow in this assurance that we have. The apostle moves directly from “knowing that we have eternal life and continuing to believe” in v13 to “this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us” in v14.

As we think about the phrase, “according to His will,” we realize what a wonderful thing it is to call upon God’s Name in prayer. God’s will is not like ours—changing and adapting to try to fit one part with another. It is a perfect whole: the end from the beginning, and everything in between, as just one, great, beautiful, perfect whole.

This is why we rejoice over that will in Ephesians 1:11, “In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.” Our being joint-heirs with Christ, to the everlasting praise of His great glory, is continuously being accomplished in every single thing that ever happens.

It is part and parcel of a plan that includes every single thing that happened today, in every single part of the world. And, every single thing that happens is part and parcel of the same plan to give us that inheritance!

So, when we learn about what God has commanded, and we ask Him to help us in that, we are agreeing with and rejoicing in the same plan that brings us safely at last into our glorious inheritance in and with the Lord Jesus Christ.

And, whatever we learn about what God has planned to do, or how God works in this world, and we ask Him to do those things, we are agreeing and rejoicing in the same plan that brings us safely at last into our glorious inheritance in and with the Lord Jesus Christ.

According to v13, the apostle wrote this letter so that we might know that we have eternal life and persist in believing in the Name of the Son of God. And now, in v14 he tells us that our coming to God in prayer for things according to His will is an exercise of this very confidence. For, we know that He hears us. And, we know that He has planned to do these things in response to our praying.

Prayer is an act of worship in which we lay hold of Christ, and in which we lay hold of God in Christ, and in which we lay hold of what God has planned for us in Christ. It exalts the perfect wisdom of His plan, and the love in which He planned it, and the power in which He carries it out.

Let us always be worshipping God in prayer, exercising our confidence toward Him in Christ Jesus!