Christian Certainty

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- I. Introduction.
 - A. Text: I John 5:18-21.
 - B. "We know" occurs three times in this section.
 - C. This is an intuitive knowledge from the Spirit of God.
- II. True Christianity creates three great certainties.
 - A. The one born of God does not sin—God keeps him and the evil one does not touch him.
 - 1. This is the certainty of righteousness.
 - 2. When there is a Christian profession, there must be an accompanying change in the life.
 - 3. There cannot be a continual and habitual practice of sin for the Christian—this is the proof of the new birth.
 - 4. Conversion is a revolution in the life of the individual.
 - 5. We do not have to yield to the devil's desires—they are lies.
 - 6. Obedience is the name of the game—you cannot be a Christian without showing obedience to the Lord.
 - B. The Christian knows he is born of God.
 - 1. Christians are not better but separated from the world.
 - 2. The whole world lies in the power of the evil one, and it cannot be stopped by merely talking about it.
 - 3. The Christian message alone sets free.
 - C. The Christian has certainty of reality—we are in God who is true.
 - 1. "True" appears frequently in this verse.
 - 2. The word true is reality.
 - 3. The glorious privilege of this reality is that we are in Him sharing in His life and thinking.
 - 4. Man aims for the abundant and continual life.

5. Whatever you want to live for is your god—what do you want to live for? Is it Christ or something else?

Application questions:

1. What does it mean that the Christian "does not sin?" Explain.	
2. Are Christians better than the world because they are "born of God?" Explain.	
3. How is new life a certainty of Christianity and what does this look like?	