

1 John

CHAPTER 2

Review:

Caption: _____

The Advocacy of Christ

¹My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

²He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

- He is trying to bring a balance between the two extremes
 - _____
 - _____
- John is making a definite distinction between an ongoing habitual lifestyle of sinning (cf. 3:6, 9) and individual acts of sin committed by struggling and tempted Christians.
- Jesus is our *Parakletos*
 - Who is He with? (the Father *in heaven*)
 - Holy Spirit is our *parakletos within*
 - How is He described?
 - _____
 - Advocate; one called alongside to help
 - Defend against who?
 - _____ (Rev 12:10)
 - There is no condemnation for Christians (Rom 8:1)

Relationship with God

³We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands.

⁴The man who says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

- Assurance is obtained through our actions - obedience
- False teachers:
 - Claimed to *know* God but were trying to separate salvation from lifestyle morality
 - Claimed superior knowledge of God, but their lifestyles revealed their true motives
- Compare & Contrast

⁵But if anyone obeys his word, God’s love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him:

⁶Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

- A believer can have confidence in their relationship with God
 - *In Him* means to _____
 - *Must* walk as Jesus did
- “True Faith” is _____
- Christianity is not just about heaven when we die, but _____

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Loving and Hating

⁷Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard.

⁸Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

- Dear friends (Gk: Agapētoi) literally _____
- The command from the beginning was to _____ (see 2 John 5; John 13:34)
- The age of darkness is _____

⁹Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness.

¹⁰Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble.

¹¹But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him.

- Darkness is the absence of _____
 - Light is a biblical metaphor for *truth, revelation, and moral purity*
- Hating your brother is a settled ongoing attitude

The Family of Faith

¹²I write to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name.

¹³I write to you, fathers, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, dear children, because you have known the Father.

¹⁴I write to you, fathers, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

- This is a poem or a song in the format [A, B, C, A, B, C]
 - Repetition of phrases signifies increased importance
 - you have _____ who is from the beginning
 - you have _____ the evil one
 - What else does he say?
 - your sins have been forgiven
 - you have known the Father
 - you are _____
 - the word of God lives in you
- Note the different audiences:
 - children, fathers, young men
 - roles and responsibilities
 - leadership and authority
 - levels of maturity
- He's writing to _____

Love for the World

¹⁵Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

¹⁶For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world.

¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

- “world” used here, means a _____ and a _____ hostile to God – fallen creation

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- He warns them about the seductive influence of the world
 - sinful desires (lust of flesh/craving physical pleasure)
 - lust of the eyes (same/craving everything we see)
 - boasting in possessions and position (pride of life/pride in achievements & possessions)
- These things _____!
- An abiding relationship with God will not only satisfy us now, it will for all eternity!

“Only one life, ’twill soon be past; only what’s done for Christ will last.” C.T. Studd

Warning Against Antichrists

¹⁸Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour.

¹⁹They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

- Last hour – the age before Christ’s second coming (*Perousia*)
- *Antichrist* can mean _____, or _____ *Christ*; or the opposite of Christ
- **The** Antichrist is coming
 - It is theologically possible that since Satan does not know the time of Christ’s return, he has someone already prepared to step into world leadership at any moment of opportunity
- Many _____ (false teachers or false messiahs) similar to him have already appeared
 - People who resist godly _____; who resist the _____ in the church or adhere to _____ doctrine
 - Today this would be cults; even church splits
 - _____ and _____ were heresies that were gaining ground at this time
- The false teachers have _____

²⁰But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.

²¹I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth.

- Contrasting true believers with false teachers/antichrists
- Who were anointed in OT?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - Those called and equipped by God for a specific task
- Christians are called & equipped to _____!
- Gnostics claimed a _____ *knowledge*
- Believers have _____ *knowledge*

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²²Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist—he denies the Father and the Son.

²³No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

- Antichrist is whoever denies that Jesus is _____
- Access to the Father is through Christ alone (Jn 14:6 *I am the way, truth, life. No one ...*)

²⁴See that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father.

²⁵And this is what he promised us—even eternal life.

- John points them back to the simple gospel message
- “remains” (Gk: *meno*) life; it’s _____
- We see a theme of an habitual lifestyle which is eternal
- The power to live comes through a continual _____ in Christ

²⁶I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray.

²⁷As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just as it has taught you, remain in him.

- False teachers were leading them away from this; self-reliant _____ from God
- Abiding is how increase our true knowledge of God

Children of God

²⁸And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.

²⁹If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.

- John encourages them to continually _____
 - This will result in us _____ in Him; conforming to the likeness of Jesus
 - This will result in us being able to confidently face Him when He returns (Parousia)

Central Lesson?

- _____

Conclusion?

- _____

Application Questions

- How do you abide?
- What disrupts your time with God?
- What can you do to strengthen your time with God?

Next week:

- **Dan 1 John 3 *The most exciting chapter in the NT!***
- **Men’s Retreat! ~ Please pray for the men attending and their families at home!**