

# First Epistle of John

Introduction of the Epistle: I John 1:1-4 - That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (2) (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) (3) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. (4) And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

- About the first Epistle of the Apostle John
  - Who was the author of the Epistle?
    - God
      - II Timothy 3:16a – “All scripture is given by inspiration of God”
      - II Timothy 1:21
    - John, son of Zebedee, brother of James
      - Follower of John the Baptist; John 1:37-39
      - Called into the ministry by Jesus; Matthew 4:18-20; Mark 1:16-18
      - Took care of Mary, mother of Jesus; John 19:25-27
      - Writer of the fourth Gospel, three Epistles and Book of Revelation (the last five writings of the New Testament)
      - Traditional locations of ministry: Ephesus; Patmos; Rome with Peter;
      - Last living of the twelve apostles, who died peacefully 100 AD at Ephesus;
  - When was the Epistle written? Traditionally 85-95 AD
  - Who was the Epistle written to?
    - Revelation 1:4a – “John to the seven churches which are in Asia”
    - Revelation 1:11b – “What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea”
    - All believers: II Timothy 3:16-17
- What is “That” in I John 1:1
  - “which was from the beginning”
    - John 1:1-3
      - John 1:14a – “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us”
      - Who was the “Word”? – Jesus
  - “which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled”
    - Who is “we”?
      - Same “we” as in John 1:14 - And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and **we** beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
      - I believe that John is talk collectively of the followers of Jesus during His ministry, in specific the Apostles.
      - How much resource did John the Apostle have? John 21:24-25
    - “which we have heard” - John 7:45-47; Even as a 12 year old boy: Luke 2:46-47
    - “which we have seen with our eyes”; “which we have looked upon”
      - John 1:14
        - What was “his glory”? His transfiguration; His miracles; His resurrection
    - “and <which> our hands have handled”
      - I believe that this speaks of their personal contact of approximately 3.5 years with Jesus.
    - “of the Word of life” – Explained in I John 1:2 – “ For the life”

- “was manifested”
  - How was the Word manifested? - By His virgin birth - John 1:14 – “And the Word was made flesh”; By His words; By His miracles
- “and we have seen it” - John 1:14
- “and bear witness” - Acts 1:8; Matthew 10:16-18
- “and shew unto you that eternal life”
  - This life is in Jesus: John 1:1-4; I John 5:11-12
  - This life comes by believing: John 3:15-16
  - This life is promised by the Father: I John 2:25
  - This life is confirmed by the Word of God: John 5:39; I John 5:13
  - This life make believers secure: John 10:28
  - This life make believers hate the life in this present world: John 12:25
  - This life is to know God and His Son: John 17:3; I John 5:20
- “which was with the Father” - John 5:16
- “and was manifested unto us”
  - What was manifested?: I John 1:3a - “That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you”
  - Why manifested? – Two reasons - Both wonderfully positive in nature!
    - I John 1:3b – “that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ”
    - I John 1:4 - And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

The Message of the Apostles: I John 1:5-7 - This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. (6) If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: (7) But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

- What did the Apostles do with the Message: I John 1:5b – “<we> declare unto you”
  - I John 1:2b – “For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness”
  - I John 1:3a – “That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you”
  - I John 1:4a – “And these things write we unto you”
- Where did the Apostles Hear the Message? I John 1:5a – “This then is the message which we have heard of him”
  - “him” – Who is “him”? The Word of Life I John 1:1 – From Jesus during His earthly ministry
- What is the Message: I John 1:5c – “that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all”
  - This light and darkness is connected with Day and Night even though there was no Sun at this time, which was created on the fourth day. Therefore, it may be perceived to be created. (?):
    - Genesis 1:1-5
    - Isaiah 40:19
      - Fulfillment during the eternal state after God destroys His prior creation in Genesis and makes a new Heaven and a New Earth: Revelation 22:5
  - Light is associated with physical life that God through creation: John 1:1-9; Even the wicked have this light: Job 18:5
  - Light is associated with the enlightenment that comes through the Holy Spirit: Psalms 27:1; 43:2-3; John 3:17-21; 8:12a
  - Back to the context of I John 1:5c – “that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all” - Daniel 2:20-22; Habakkuk 3:3-4a
- The Negative Implication of the Message toward us: I John 1:6 - If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
  - Repeated by Jesus and shows when Jesus gave the Apostles “the message”: John 8:12
    - An example: I John 2:9-10

- “Walking” – This is an action verb implying how we conduct ourselves once we are saved. Does not imply a positional truth as “being”.
  - To walk in darkness is to walk contrary to the life that God has provided.
    - Illustration: Before salvation we were children of Satan (darkness), at salvation we became children of God (light). If we be children of God but conduct us as children of Satan, then we reveal that we “lie, and do not the truth”
    - God’s expectation for His children: I Peter 1:13-17 - Motivation is judgment at the Judgment Seat of Christ - II Corinthians 5:9-11
    - Fruit inspection of self - Colossians 1:9-10; Romans 6:20-22; 7:4-6
  - What is the outcome if we say we are of the light, yet walk in darkness: I John 1:6 - If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
    - “If” is a major two letter word that if misused can create major bad doctrine. The word, “if” implies that there is a choice. The lost have not choice but walk in darkness. The saved must have the choice, even though the Lord wants us to choice rightly.
    - “we lie, and do not the truth” - This say nothing about salvation: but witness is contrary to whom we are, children of the light.
- The Positive Implication of the Message toward us: I John 1:7 - But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.
  - “If” – Believers choose to walk in the light
  - Two results:
    - “we have fellowship one with another”
      - First our fellowship must be God: I John 1:3; I Corinthians 1:9
      - Fellowship must be based unity that we have in Christ - Amos 3:3; II Corinthians 6:14; Ephesians 4:3 - How do we? by walking in the light!
    - “the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” - Hebrews 8:1,6; Romans 8:27, 34; Hebrews 7:25

#### The Working of Forgiveness and Sin: I John 1:8-10; 2:1-2

We are sinners by birth, choice and deeds

- We are sinners by birth: I John 1:8 - If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
  - This is a Heavenly/Positional truth: We are sinners at the point of conception prior to birth
  - “that we have no sin” – implies that we have sin, not that we commit sin. Sin dwells within us.
    - Romans 7:17b, 20b – “sin that dwelleth in me”
      - David stated this truth: Psalms 51:5
    - How did we get sin dwelling in us: Romans 5:12
      - “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world”
      - Genesis 3:1-7
      - Our father, the first man, made us all sinner by birth: I Corinthians 15:21-22 - Romans 5:19
    - Where does death come from? Romans 6:23
      - Ezekiel 18:4
  - If we state that we are not sinners through Adam, then
    - “we deceive ourselves”
    - “the truth is not in us”

- We are sinner by choice and deeds: I John 1:10 - If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
  - This is an Earthly truth: We all commit sin
    - Romans 3:10-12: The conduct of all mankind
      - Romans 3:10: "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one;"
      - Romans 3:11a: "There is none that understandeth,"
      - Romans 3:11b: "there is none that seeketh after God."
      - Romans 3:12a: "They are all gone out of the way,"
      - Romans 3:12b: "they are together become unprofitable;"
      - Romans 3:12c: "there is none that doeth good, no, not one."
    - Romans 3:13-14: The words of all mankind
      - Romans 3:13a: "Their throat is an open sepulcher;"
      - Romans 3:13b: "with their tongues they have used deceit;"
      - Romans 3:13c: "the poison of asps is under their lips."
      - Romans 3:14: "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness;"
    - Romans 3:15-18: The deeds of all mankind
      - Romans 3:15: "Their feet are swift to shed blood:"
      - Romans 3:16: "Destruction and misery are in their ways:"
      - Romans 3:17: "And the way of peace have they not known:"
      - Romans 3:18: "There is no fear of God before their eyes."
    - Conclusion: Romans 3:23
  - If we state that we do not commit sin, then
    - "we make him a liar"
      - Who is "him"? - God
    - "his word is not in us"

We need to practice a humble and contrite heart:

- I John 2:1-2
  - Who is John speaking to: I John 2:1a - " My little children"
    - Those believers that he is writing to, which are the members of the seven churches in Asia Minor as stated in Revelation 1
  - Why is John writing to them: I John 2:1b - "these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin"
  - What should they do when the sin: I John 1:9
  - How does He forgive our sins? I John 2:2 - And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. - I John 4:10; Romans 3:23-26 - Meaning of "propitiation" - The means of appeasing - How? Hebrews 9:22
  - Jesus as Prophet, Priest and King
    - Jesus as Prophet – Jesus’ earthly ministry for 3.5 years – Four Gospels
    - Jesus as King – Jesus’ millennium reign, sitting on the seat of King David – Revelation 19:11-20:4
    - Jesus as Priest (the propitiation) – Jesus’ current time between His accession and His second coming
      - I John 2:1c - "we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" - I Timothy 2:5-6; Hebrews 12:24a - " And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant"
      - Hebrews 3:1 - Hebrews 4:14-15; 8:1-2
      - One time work of Jesus, our High Priest - Hebrews 1:2-3; 10:12
        - Heavenly/Positional truth: All our sin were dealt with at the cross - Why? Ephesians 5:25-27; Ezekiel 36:25-26

- On-going work of Jesus, our High Priest - Hebrews 7:24-26; Psalms 32:5; Proverbs 28:13; Psalms 51:2-5; Job 33:27-28; Example: Nehemiah 1:6; I Kings 8:46-47, 49-50; Even the Law taught this: Leviticus 26:40-42

Exhortation for Self-examination of Believers - In I John 1-2 there has been a clear presentation that we should practice self-examination by these standards that show us that we do not have the truth as believers. These standards so far have been what we convey what we believe by what we say and what we do.

- II Corinthians 13:5
- Psalms 139:23-24
  - Some that served God were not saved: Matthew 7:22-23
  - Some attempt to deceive the saved: Matthew 24:24
  - The exhortation is to the saved to be on guard: I Peter 5:8
    - Jesus told Peter: Luke 22:31
  - I John 2:19
- Three exhortations for self examination have been given so far in I John
  - Behavior: I John 1:6
  - Belief: I John 1:8
  - Belief: I John 1:10
- Fourth Exhortation of self-examination - Behavior: I John 2:3-4 - And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. (4) He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
  - Vs. 4 "I know him" - Knowing is important according to Paul: II Timothy 1:12
    - Our sole goal in the Christian Life should be to please God: I Thessalonians 4:1-2
  - We understand keeping His commandment does not save us: Titus 3:5-7
  - Keeping God's commandments proves our relationship with Him; it is a testimony to us and to others
    - Keeping the Commandments under the Law texts:
      - Associated with loving God: Exodus 2:7
      - Associated with being holy: Numbers 15:40
      - Associated with fearing God: Deuteronomy 6:2a
      - Associated with walking in His ways: Deuteronomy 11:22
    - Current texts
      - Gives us Assurance of Salvation - We should keep His commandment to know that we know God: I John 2:3
        - Again it is not saying that we are saved by keeping His commandments; but we are given full assurance when we walk according to His commandments
        - If we are not living the life we should as God's children, then we should be examining ourselves.
        - The Commandments defines what is gold, silver and precious stones and what is wood, hay and stubble: I Corinthians 3:10-15
          - I believe that this will occur during the Judgment Seat of Christ
      - We should keep His commandment that we have the truth of God:
        - I John 2:4 - He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
        - Three things in this text make us a liar and have not the truth
          - I John 1:6a - "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness"
          - I John 1:8a - "If we say that we have no sin"
          - I John 2:4a - "He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments"

- We should keep His commandment that the love of God is perfected in us: I John 2:5 - Mark 12:31-32; John 14:21; 15:9-10; I John 5:2-3; II John 1:6
- We should keep His commandment that we abide in God: I John 2:6 - He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.
  - How did Jesus say He walked: John 5:30
  - We know that we abide in Him: John 15:4-7

The new/old commandment: I John 2:7-8 - Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning. (8) Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

- “no new commandment”
  - What is the commandment? Matthew 22:35-40
  - “which ye had from the beginning”: Deuteronomy 6:4-9
- “Again, a new commandment I write unto you” (which is a reemphasis of the old commandment): Deuteronomy 6:5
  - “which thing is true in him and in you”
    - “in him” – Jesus: Did Jesus love God?
    - “in you” – all believers: Do we have the ability to love God? - I John 4:19
      - When did it occur? I John 2:8b – “because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth” – At our salvation

(Behavior) Self-examination standard for know we abide in the light: I John 2:9-11

- “God is light”: I John 1:5
- Exhortation to walk in the light: I John 1:7a – “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another” – Bases of fellowship with believers is loving one another.
- Loving those that God loves is a sure sign of abiding in the light: I John 2:10
  - Exhortation to love all mankind including your enemies: Matthew 5:43-48
  - Not loving those that God loves is a sure sign of walking in darkness: I John 2:9, 11
  - How does God show His love? Romans 5:8; John 3:16
  - How do we show love to our brother? By always forgiving them by both word and deed! - Matthew 18:21-22, 15-17
  - I John 4:20-21

Stages of Spiritual Growth: I John 2:12-14 - I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name’s sake. (13) I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father. (14) I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

- “little children” – Young Believers – Babes in the Lord
  - Awareness of forgiveness: I John 2:12
  - Awareness of relationship with God the Father: I John 2:13c – “I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.”
  - Awareness that we have overcome the world: I John 4:4
  - Awareness to have the victory over sin: I John 2:1a – “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not.”
    - I Corinthians 3:1-3 - Fed by the milk of the word; “yet carnal”; “envying, and strife, and divisions”; “walk as men” – unsaved men
    - I Peter 2:1-3 - “desire the sincere milk of the word”; “have tasted that the Lord is gracious”

- Hebrews 5:13 - “unskillful in the word of righteousness”
- Ephesians 4:14 - “tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine”
- I Corinthians 14:20 - “be not children in understanding”
- “fathers” – Elderly Believers - Spiritual Leaders in the Church - I John 2:13a, 14a; I Corinthians 2:15; Hebrews 5:14; Galatians 6:1, 6; Acts 14:23; I Timothy 5:17-19; James 5:14; I Peter 5:1-3
- “young men” – Believers who have been saved for a while – Servants of the Lord - I John 2:13b, I John 2:14b; Proverbs 20:29; Titus 2:6-8; Hebrews 5:11-12; I Timothy 5:1; I Peter 5:5-6

## I John 2:15-17

- I John 2:15
  - Exhortation to not love the world: I John 2:15a – “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.”
    - It does not pertain to the people of the world: John 3:16
    - This text pertains to this world system existing under the control of Satan
      - II Corinthians 4:3-4
      - Who is the god of this world: Matthew 4:8-10
      - John 12:31
        - When? Mid-point of the Tribulation Period: Revelation 12:7
    - Another self-examination test: I John 2:15b – “If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”
      - Know: The world system is evil: I John 5:19
      - Know: When saved we were no longer part of the world system: John 15:18-19 - I John 5:4
      - We cannot serve both the world and God: Matthew 6:24 - Exodus 20:3,5a
      - We are not to be friends with the world: James 4:4
      - Be not confirmed to this world: Romans 12:1-2
  - Three things that are of the world and not of the Father: I John 2:16 - For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
    - I John 2:15a - “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world.”
    - “the lust of the flesh” – Pertains to evil desires of old nature
      - Fact about Man at Creation - Psalms 139:14a; Genesis 1:26a-27, 31a
      - Facts about Man after the Fall - Genesis 3:22; We were prior to salvation the children of disobedience: Ephesians 2:2-3; Romans 7:18a; 8:8
      - Facts about Man after Salvation - Romans 8:9a; Galatians 5:17
        - I Corinthians 6:12 - I Corinthians 10:23
          - The flesh wants to take our body appetites and change them into hard to control lusts.
        - Galatians 6:7-8
      - Exhortations to walk as believers - Galatians 5:16; Romans 13:14; II Corinthians 7:1; I Peter 4:1-2
        - Romans 6:11-13 - I Corinthians 15:31; 9:27a; Romans 8:13
    - “the lust of the eye” – Pertains materialism and the cares of this world
      - Love not the world
        - 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment: Exodus 20:17
        - Psalms 10:3
        - Hebrews 13:5
      - Philippians 4:11-12
      - I Timothy 6:6-10
      - Proverbs 30:7-9
      - Matthew 6:31-33
      - The third type of ground in the parable of the sower: Matthew 13:22

- “the pride of life”
  - Satan is the author of pride: Isaiah 14:12-14
  - Pride is the reason behind the fall of man: Genesis 3:1-6
  - Proverbs 8:13a
  - Mark 7:20-23
  - Proverbs 6:16-19
  - James 4:6b
  - James 4:13-15
- I John 2:17 - And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. - Revelation 21:1; II Peter 3:10

#### The Spirit of the Anti-christ: I John 2:18, 22-23

- “Little children” – Two implications
  - John could be addressing everyone due to he being the only living Apostle and very old in age.
  - John could be addressing young believers to inform them what “young men and fathers” already know as discussed in I John 2:12-14
- “it is the last time”
  - In context with the following phrasing, it appears to imply “the last days”
    - What are the last days?
      - Some equate the last days to the Millennium Reign of the Messiah - Isaiah 2:2-4; Micah 4:1-5
      - Some equate the last days to that which follows the Rapture of the Church, the Tribulation Period - Adding the Tribulation Period - Matthew 24:3, 21-22; Revelation 6:12-17
      - Others equate the last days to the time that follows the sixty-ninth week of Daniel; which follows the rejection of the Messiah by the Jews. – Adding the Church - I John 2:18; Apostasy in the Church age: I Timothy 4:1-2
    - In reality based upon which scripture you read it could be any of these.
- Context in relationship with “antichrist(s)”
  - “as ye have heard that antichrist shall come”
    - II Thessalonians 2:3-12
    - Maybe directly talking about this text if the Book of Revelation was written before I John: Revelation 13:1-5
    - Could also be found in Daniel
  - “even now are there many antichrists” - I John 4:3; Matthew 24:5, 1
  - “whereby we know that it is the last time” - Matthew 24:21-24; II Peter 2:1-3
  - Standards for identifying someone as the “antichrist”: I John 2:22-23 –
    - First standard - Denying that Jesus is the Messiah: I John 2:22a
    - Second standard – Denial of the existence of the God the Father and God the Son: I John 2:22b-23
    - Third standard - Denying Jesus Christ did not come in the flesh: I John 4:3
- Those who are no longer associated with the church and Christ: I John 1:19
  - Parable of the Sower: Matthew 13:18-23
    - Professors not possessors: Matthew 13:20-21
    - Unfruitful babe believers: Matthew 13:22
  - With context with “antichrists” – Luke 13:25-27
    - These false teachers: I John 2:26
    - II Peter 3:3-5
- Believers, anointed with the Holy Spirit: I John 2:20-25, 27 - John 14:16-18; 15:26-27; 16:7-14



Abiding in Christ: I John 2:28 - And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

- “Little children” –
  - Just as in I John 2:18a – “Little children”
    - John could be addressing everyone due to he being the only living Apostle and very old in age.
- “abide in him”
  - I John 2:18-27 - “abiding” in the prior text dealt with the Holy Spirit abiding in us to teach us all things, in specific the work of the Antichrist and of many antichrists that have been and will continue throughout the church age.
  - “in him” is Jesus Christ
    - Clear interpretation based upon the next comment: “when he shall appear”
  - Abiding in Christ is to walk as Christ walked: I John 2:5-6 - John 15:1-8
  - Who are they that abide in Christ? Believers
    - NOTE: The usage many time does not use the term, “abide”, but states it as “in Christ”.
    - I Corinthians 15:22b
    - II Corinthians 5:17
    - Romans 8:1
  - With these truths concerning what we are “in him”, we are exhorted to abide.
  - “when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming”
    - “when he shall appear” and “before him at his coming” - I Corinthians 15:51-52; I Thessalonians 4:16-17
    - “we may have confidence, and not be ashamed”
      - Two groups - Ready and not ready believers: Matthew 25:1-13
      - When will we have confidence, and not be ashamed: II Corinthians 5:9-11

Another self-assessment for believes for assurance of salvation: I John 2:29 - If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.

- “If ye know that he is righteous” - I John 2:1; II Timothy 4:8; Third angel to pour out the third bowl of wrath: Revelation 16:4-5
- “ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him”
  - Believers are the righteous - Romans 5:19
  - “doeth righteousness” – Manifesting good works - Ephesians 2:8-10; II Timothy 3:16-17; Titus 2:13-14; 3:8, 14; Hebrews 10:24; I Peter 2:11-12
  - “is born of him”
    - Must be born by believing: I John 5:1a
    - Must be born in the Spirit: John 3:3-7
    - Must be born by the Word: I Peter 1:23

Our Adoption into God’s Family as His Children: I John 3:1-3

- I John 3:1
  - I John 3:1a – “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us” - John 3:16; Romans 5:8
  - I John 3:1b – “that we should be called the sons of God” - Galatians 3:26; John 1:12; Romans 8:14-16; II Corinthians 6:17-18; Galatians 4:5-7
  - I John 3:1c – “therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not”
    - Goes way beyond not knowing us and the Lord: John 15:18-19
- I John 3:2
  - I John 3:2a - " Beloved, now are we the sons of God"
    - Verse one implies that we should be called: I John 3:1b
    - Verse two reveals that we now are in our current state of not being glorified.

- I John 3:2b - "and it doth not yet appear what we shall be" - II Corinthians 3:18; Romans 8:29; 8:18; II Peter 1:4; Philippians 3:21
- I John 3:2c - " but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is"
  - "but we know that" - we have full confidence and assurance!
  - " when he shall appear" - the rapture - I Thessalonians 4:16-17
  - " we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" - I Corinthians 13:12
- I John 3:3 - And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.
  - I John 3:3a - "And every man that hath this hope in him" - Colossians 1:5; Titus 3:7
  - I John 3:3b - " purifieth himself, even as he is pure" - II Corinthians 7:1; II Peter 3:14

#### The Working of Sin: I John 3:4-9

- I John 3:4 - Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
  - Lawful Use of the Law: I Timothy 1:8 - Romans 3:20a
  - Definitions of sin - Romans 3:20b; 14:23b; James 4:17; I John 5:17a
- I John 3:5 - And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.
  - "And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins"
    - The angel told Joseph: Matthew 1:21
    - John the Baptist proclaimed it: John 1:29
      - How? Hebrews 9:22
    - Jesus said it: Luke 19:10
    - Paul taught it: I Timothy 1:15; Hebrews 7:25; Romans 5:6-8
    - John taught it: I John 4:9-10
  - "in him is no sin"
    - Paul taught it: II Corinthians 5:21
    - Peter taught it: I Peter 2:21-22
- I John 3:6-9
  - Is there a conflict? I John 1:10
  - Why do we need a Mediator? I John 2:1-2
  - Dual nature of a believer: Romans 7:14-25
  - I John 3:6a - "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not" - I John 5:18
    - Truly that which has been so far cleansed by the work of Christ at the point of salvation cannot be corrupted by sin and Satan.
  - I John 3:6b - "whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him"
    - Who is "him"?
      - Is it Jesus? No, because men who saw the Son of God sinned, even His disciples. Peter lied stating he did not know Jesus.
      - Is must be God the Father! - I John 4:12; III John 1:11; John 1:18; I Timothy 6:16
  - I John 3:7 - Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.
    - "he that doeth righteousness is righteous"
      - Old nature: Romans 3:10
      - New Nature: Romans 3:22 - II Corinthians 5:21
    - "doeth righteousness" Matthew 7:18-19
      - How do you do righteousness? By getting saved.
    - "even as he is righteous" - I John 2:1; II Timothy 4:8; Revelation 16:4-5
  - I John 3:8
    - "He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning"
      - "for the devil sinneth from the beginning": Isaiah 14:12-14
      - "that committeth sin is of the devil": Genesis 3:1-6; John 8:44

- All lost people are of the devil, that is why they need to be redeemed and born again.
  - “For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.” - Hebrews 2:14; John 12:31; Revelation 20:10; Ephesians 2:2-4
- I John 3:9 - Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.
  - "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin"
    - "and he cannot sin, because he is born of God"
  - Reason #1: "for his seed remaineth in him" - I Peter 1:23
  - Reason #2: I John 5:18
    - In the mind of God we never do sin, because it is under the blood of Christ and already paid for.

#### The Love of the Believers for One Another: I John 3:10-13

- I John 3:10 - In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.
  - “In this” - based upon conduct: I John 3:8-9
  - "the children of God are manifest"
    - We are made known by being contrast to the children of the devil
  - How are the children of the devil manifested
    - "whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God" - Romans 3:10; Luke 6:43-45
    - "neither he that loveth not his brother" - I John 4:8, 16
- I John 3:11 - For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. (9)
  - Jesus taught that we should love one another (2) - John 13:34-35, 15:17
  - Paul taught that we should love one another (7) - Romans 12:10, 13:8; Galatians 5:13; Ephesians 4:2; 1Thessalonians 3:12, 4:9; Hebrews 10:24
  - Peter taught that we should love one another (2) - 1Peter 1:22, 3:8
  - Now John teaches that we should love one another (6) -
    - I John 3:11, 23, 4:7, 11, 12; II John 4:5
- Example of the Love not loving one another: I John 3:12
  - Why did Cain slew his brother?
    - "who was of that wicked one" - Note: the first generation after Adam and Eve were associated with Satan by Cain's conduct of killing Abel.
    - "Because his own works were evil": Genesis 4:3-7
    - "his brother's righteous" – the unrighteous will always have a hatred toward God and those who follow Him. - John 15:18-21; Matthew 24:9-10; I John 3:13

#### Proof of our Salvation Loving One Another: I John 3:14-18

- I John 3:14 - We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.
  - “We know” – we have full confidence and assurance
  - Assurance of Salvation: “we have passed from death unto life”
    - “death” - Ephesians 2:1, 5; Colossians 2:13
    - “life”
      - John 3:15-16; Romans 6:23
  - How? “because we love the brethren”
- I John 3:15
  - “Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer” - Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28
    - The seed of the thought leads to the sin - James 1:14; Proverbs 23:7a; Example: Genesis 3:6; Jeremiah 17:9-10; Benefit of the Word of God: Hebrews 4:12

- “you know that not murderer hath eternal life abiding in him”
  - How about Paul? - Acts 9:1a; 26:10-11; Galatians 1:13
  - “abiding in him” - Old man versus New man - Only the new man abides in Christ
- I John 3:16 - Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
  - How do we perceive this? Jesus taught this: John 15:12-13 - John 10:14-15
  - Ephesians 5:2, 25
- Love not only in word, but in deed: I John 3:17-18 - But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? (18) My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.
  - Just like faith with works: James 2:14-18
  - Many times our words are boastful, however our actions are weak.
    - Matthew 26:41
    - Example Peter in his denial: Matthew 26:31-35
  - The Church of Thessalonica had this reputation: I Thessalonians 1:3

I John 3:19-24 - And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.

(20) For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. (21) Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. (22) And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. (23) And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. (24) And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

- Four points of assurance taught in I John so far
  - I John 2:3, 29, 3:2; 14
- Fifth statement that gives us assurance of salvation: I John 3:19- And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.
  - “hereby” Based upon I John 3:18 - My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.
  - "we know" - What are we assure of?
    - “we are of the truth”
      - Psalms 31:5; I John 4:6; John 15:19
    - “our hearts before him” - we are always before God
      - Before God during the Judgment Seat of Christ - II Corinthians 5:10
      - Before God now - Psalms 33:13-14, 139:1-4, 7-10; Jeremiah 17:10
- As we stand before God, our heart can condemn us (Vs20) or not condemn us (Vs21)
  - Context: I John 3:19b – “our hearts before him”
  - I John 3:20 - For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.
    - Why? “For if our heart condemn us”
      - We know that God will judge us: I Corinthians 4:4
      - No sin is secret before God: Psalms 90:8
      - We know that we are not living righteously: I John 2:28-29
      - We know that we are living and believing contrary to His wishes: Titus 3:10-11
    - “God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things” - Jeremiah 23:23-24; Hebrews 4:13; Psalms 44:20-21
      - Therefore we put our trust in God!
  - I John 3:21 - Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.
    - Confidence based upon two truths
    - Truth One: It is all under the blood of Christ - Hebrews 10:16-18; Ephesians 2:13; I John 1:7
    - Truth Two: God is not finished with us - Philippians 1:6; I Corinthians 4:1-5

- I John 3:22 - And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.
  - Why we have answered prayers? – “whatsoever we ask, we receive of him”
    - “because we keep his commandments”
      - What is “his commandments”? I John 3:23
    - “do those things that are pleasing in his sight” - I Thessalonians 4:1
      - We have a choice to please God or ourselves.
  - Why do we not have our prayers answered prayers? - James 4:3; I John 5:14; Perfect example: Luke 22:42
- I John 3:23 - And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.
  - "That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ" - Acts 15:11,16:31; Romans 10:9-10; I John 5:13
  - "and <that we> love one another, as he <Jesus> gave us commandment" - John 13:34-35, 15:17
- I John 3:24 - And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.
  - "And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him."
    - It happens at salvation of the believer: I John 3:23a
    - It should continue as we walk on this earth after we are saved: I John 2:6
    - "dwelleth in him, and he in him" - Jesus spoke of this oneness: John 17:20-23
  - "And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us." - Romans 8:9-11; I Corinthians 3:16, 6:19-20; I John 4:12-13

#### I John 4:1-6

- There are false spirits: I John 4:1 - Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
  - Part one of the exhortation: I John 4:1a – “Beloved, believe not every spirit”
    - Why be concerned - that there are these false “spirit”? I John 4:1c – “Beloved, believe not every spirit”
      - The use of spirit is also associated with prophets because false spirits guide false prophets
      - I John 4:1c – “because many false prophets are gone out into the world”
    - Jesus spoke of the false prophets
      - Some proclaim themselves to be the Messiah: Matthew 24:4-5, 11
      - Why shall they arise: Matthew 7:15
      - During the Tribulation Period: Matthew 24:23-25
      - Reason for their existence: to “deceive many” - II Timothy 3:13
    - Paul spoke of false prophets
      - After Paul’s departure: Acts 20:28-30
      - Later day: I Timothy 4:1-2
    - John spoke of false prophets
      - False prophets came within the church: I John 2:18-19 - Matthew 7:22-23; II Peter 2:20-21
      - The blatant revealing of false prophets during the Tribulation Period: Revelation 19:20
    - Jude spoke of false prophets
      - The message of the false prophet: Jude 1:4
    - Peter spoke of false prophets - II Peter 2:1-3
    - They are all of Satan completing his plan: I Peter 5:8
    - They sneaking into the church - Matthew 7:15; Acts 20:29; II Corinthians 11:13-15
    - How they work - II Peter 2:18-19; II Timothy 3:6

- Part Two of the exhortation: I John 4:1b – “but try the spirits whether they are of God”
  - By being fruit inspectors: Matthew 7:15-20
  - I Thessalonians 5:21; Proverbs 14:15; Revelation 2:1-2; I Corinthians 12:10
- I John 4:2-3 - Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: (3) And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.
  - Try the spirit by doctrine - Colossians 2:8
    - The doctrine of Humanity of the Messiah: I John 4:2b-3a – “Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: (3) And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God”
    - False teaching of the Gnostics attacking the dualism of Christ (the God/Man) that started at Alexandria, Egypt in the Church reaching its peak of popularity around 150 AD
    - Isaiah 7:14, 9:6; John 1:1, 14
  - Is this the only doctrine they attack? NO!
- I John 4:4-6
  - Believers are victors: I John 4:4 - Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. - I John 5:4-5; Romans 8:35-37
    - Satan has lost the battle! - John 12:31, 16:7-11; Revelation 20:10
  - I John 4:5-6 - They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. (6) We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.
    - We know who they are by their willingness to hear the truth. All we need to do is teach the truth.
    - II Timothy 2:14-18; John 15:18-20
- I John 4:7-12
  - I John 4:7 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.
    - Exhortation: “Beloved, let us love one another”
    - Love is exhorted in I John 3 also.
    - Definition of love: “ag-ap-ah’-o” - Divine love, God’s love; Christ’s love:
    - Reason for the exhortation: “for love is of God” <”of”> - from - Psalms 86:15
    - Assurances based up our loving to ourselves and to others:
    - That we are “born of God” - John 3:3, 5; II Timothy 1:7
      - That we “knoweth God”
  - I John 4:8 - He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.
    - In contrast with verse 7: “He that loveth not knoweth not God”
      - Notice: It does not speak of not being born of God
      - Notice: Our love testifies to ourselves and other if we are in fellowship with God
      - John 13:34-35; I John 2:9
    - Reason for using love as a standard: “for God is love”
  - I John 4:9 - In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.
    - How was God’s love manifested to us? – “because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world” - I John 3:16a; John 3:16; Romans 5:8
    - Reason for God sending Jesus: “that we might live through him” – Salvation! - I John 5:11-12; John 10:10b
  - I John 4:10 - Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

- Love is not based upon us loving God: “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us” - I John 4:19
    - Meaning of "propitiation" - The means of appeasing - I John 2:1-2;
      - Why? to reconcile us to God: Romans 5:10a
      - By what? Romans 3:23-26
      - How? Hebrews 9:22
  - I John 4:11 - Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.
    - Reason for believers loving one another: “if God so loved us” - Ephesians 5:1-2; John 15:12; 13:34
    - How do we show love? By forgiving one another: Colossians 3:13
    - How do we show love? By laying down our lives for one another: I John 3:16
  - I John 4:12 - No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.
    - Truth: “No man hath seen God at any time” - John 1:18; Moses saw the hinder part of God: Exodus 33:18-23; I John 4:20
    - Love testifies to believers: “If we love one another”
      - Reason for loving one another: “God dwelleth in us”
        - Fruits of the Spirit: Galatians 5:22-23
      - Result: “his love is perfected in us”
        - If you refuse to love one another, then you are not allowing the fruit of the Spirit, love, to be perfected in us.
        - When is His love perfected: I John 2:5
        - I John 3:1-3
- I John 4:13-15
  - I John 4:13 – Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.
    - I John 3:24
    - Assurance: - “we that we dwell in him, and he in us”
    - How? – “because he hath given us of his Spirit” - Romans 8:16, 9-11
  - I John 4:14 – And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.
    - Our witness: - “the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world” - I John 1:1-3
  - I John 4:15 – Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.
    - What is our witness? – “Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God,”
    - Assurance of our union with God: - “God dwelleth in him, and he in God.” - I John 4:2; Romans 10:8-9; Matthew 10:32-33
- I John 4:16-21
  - I John 4:16 – And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.
    - Assurance of God’s love toward us: - “we have known and believed the love that God hath to us”
    - God’s Goodness through love - Psalms 31:19; I Corinthians 2:9
      - As sinner with God’s love with salvation - I John 3:16a; John 3:16; Romans 5:8
      - As His children with God’s with all spiritual blessings - Ephesians 1:3
    - Truth: - “God is love” - I John 4:8
    - Love is the bases of our union with God: - "he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him" - John 13:35; I John 4:13; Romans 8:16; Fruit of the Spirit: Galatians 5:22-23;
  - I John 4:17 - Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

- “Herein is our love made perfect”
    - How? I John 4:12b – “If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.”
    - How? I John 2:5 - But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.
    - When? Ephesians 4:11-13 - I John 3:1-2
  - “that we may have boldness in the day of judgment” - Judgment of the Saints: II Corinthians 5:10; I Corinthians 3:13-15; I John 2:28
  - “because as he is, so are we in this world” – II Corinthians 5:20
    - Though we are in this world, we are not of this world. - John 15:19; 17:14
- I John 4:18 – There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.
  - Truth: “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment”
    - Statement of Truth: - “There is no fear in love”
    - Reason of Truth: - “but perfect love casteth out fear”
      - What type of love? “perfect”
      - When will we attain “perfect love”? At our glorification
    - Truth about fear: - “because fear hath torment”
      - “fear” – phobos (fobos) - fear, dread, terror; not reverence
      - “torment” - kol’-as-is - correction, punishment, penalty; from kol-ad’-zo - to chastise, correct, punishment
      - Hebrews 12:5-11; 10:30-31
      - Based upon the Judgment Seat of Christ: II Corinthians 5:9-11 - I Corinthians 6:19-20
    - “He that feareth is not made perfect in love”: Philippians 3:12-14
- I John 4:19 – We love him, because he first loved us.
  - Why? I John 4:10a – “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us,”
  - Why did we not love prior to knowing God’s love at salvation
    - Titus 3:3; Ephesians 2:1-3; II Corinthians 5:13-15
- I John 4:20 – If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?
  - I John 3:14-19
  - I John 2:9-11 - I John 1:5-7; I Peter 1:8
- I John 4:21 - And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.
  - “And this commandment have we from him” – commandment, not an option to be pleasing before Jesus at the Judgment Seat.
  - “That he who loveth God love his brother also” - I Peter 1:8
    - The commandment to love - Matthew 22:36-39; John 15:12; 13:34; I Thessalonians 4:9; I John 3:11, 23



## I John 5:1-5

- I John 5:1 – Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.
  - “Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God”
    - “Christ” – from the Greek which means “anointed”; Hebrew word: Messiah
    - Assurance of faith: Believing that the “son of man” is the Messiah proves to yourself and others that you are “born of God”
      - Why? Being the Messiah speaks of His deity
      - Matthew 26:59-66
    - “born of God” – speaks of salvation, being born of the Holy Spirit - John 1:12-13; 3:3-6
  - “every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him” –
    - Paraphrase – everyone that loves God, who give us birth <salvation>, loves those whom God gives birth <salvation>
    - I John 4:21
      - God's love is more than an emotion or feeling of affection; it is a submission to God and His way expressed through His Word.
      - I John 3:17
    - I John 4:7-8, 20
- Circular Reasoning: I John 5:2 – By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.
  - “By this we know that we love the children of God”
    - “this we know” – full assurance
    - God wants us to know that we love each other
  - How? “when we love God, and keep his commandments”
    - Why say it this way? To emphasize the requirement that there is no way to love God and keep His commandment unless we love the children of God
    - “when we love God”
      - John 4:19
      - Fruit of the Spirit: Galatians 5:22-23
    - <when we> “keep his commandments” –
      - Ecclesiastes 12:13-14
- I John 5:3 – For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.
  - “For this is the love of God” – revealed by believers toward God and others
  - How? “that we keep his commandments” - John 14:15, 21-24; 15:9-10, 14; II John 1:6
  - “his commandments are not grievous” –
    - Definition: “grievous” - heavy in weight; burdensome; severe; stern; weighty; violent; cruel; unsparing
    - What are the commandments of the Lord? - Psalms 111:7b; 119:86, 151, 172
    - The benefits of the commandments of the Lord - Psalms 119:127, 98; Proverbs 7:2; Revelation 22:14a; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14
- I John 5:4-5 – For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. (5) Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?
  - Question: I John 5:5a – “Who is he that overcometh the world”
  - Answer:
    - "even our faith" Because we are saved: I John 5:4a – “For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world”
      - What is our faith? I John 5:5b - Hebrews 11:6
    - Because God is greater: I John 4:4

- Because the Word of God abideth in us: I John 2:13-14
- How? I John 5:4b - “this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith
  - Because Jesus conquered the world through His death resurrection: John 16:33
  - Because God gives us the victory: I Corinthians 15:57
  - Because God loves us: Romans 8:35-37
  - Revelation 12:9-11
    - "by the blood of the Lamb"
    - "by the word of their testimony"
    - "they loved not their lives unto the death"
- The results of our overcoming?
  - Revelation 3:5
    - "shall be clothed in white raiment"
    - "I will not blot out his name out of the book of life"
    - "I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels"
  - Revelation 3:20-21
    - "will I grant to sit with me in my throne" - Matthew 19:28; II Timothy 2:12; Revelation 2:26; 20:4 -
  - Revelation 2:7
    - "will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God"
  - Revelation 2:11
    - " shall not be hurt of the second death."
  - Revelation 2:17
    - "will I give to eat of the hidden manna"
    - "will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written"
  - Revelation 3:12
    - "will I make a pillar in the temple of my God"
    - "he shall go no more out"
    - "I will write upon him the name of my God"
    - < I will write upon him> "the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God"
    - "I will write upon him my new name"
  - Revelation 23:7
    - "shall inherit all things"
    - "I will be his God"
    - "he shall be my son"

#### I John 5:6-13

- I John 5:6-9
  - I John 5:6 - This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.
    - “This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood.”
      - Reason for this statement:
        - John is dealing with false teaching (Gnostics) that originated from the Church of Alexandria denying the actual physical existence
          - False teaching of the Gnostics attacking the dualism of Christ (the God/Man) that started at Alexandria, Egypt in the Church reaching its peak of popularity around 150 AD
        - The doctrine of Humanity of the Messiah: I John 4:2b-3a
      - Jesus Christ was born (water) and died (blood) physically

- “came by water” – physical birth - John 3:3-5; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6
    - “came by ... blood” – physical death - Luke 23:44-46; John 19:31-34
  - “And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.” - John 15:26; 16:13-14
- Perfect unity: John 5:7 - For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. –
  - “the Word” – John 1:14
  - "bear record": Matthew 18:16b
  - Proof text for the Trinity - Other proof texts
    - At Jesus’ Baptism: Matthew 3:16-17
    - At the Great Commission: Matthew 28:19
    - The witness of Peter at Pentecost: Acts 2:32-33
    - Working of Spiritual Gifts: I Corinthians 12:4-6
    - Paul’s closing of this Epistle: II Corinthians 13:14
- Perfect Harmony: John 5:8 - And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. –
  - In context “the Spirit” – The Holy Spirit
  - In context “the water” – The Birth of Christ
  - In context “the blood” – The Death of Christ
- John 5:9 - If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.
  - “If we receive the witness of men” – witnesses were the Apostles - John 15:26-27; Acts 1:8; 2:32; 3:14-15; 5:29-32
  - “the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son” – When?
    - At Jesus’ Baptism: Matthew 3:16-17
    - At Jesus’ Transfiguration: Matthew 17:1-5
- I John 5:10-13
  - I John 5:10 – He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.
    - “He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself” - Romans 8:16
    - “he that believeth not God hath made him a liar” – There are no innocent non-believers - Romans 3:10-12
      - Why? “because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son”
      - “him a liar” – Numbers 23:19a - Romans 3:4b; John 3:31-33
  - I John 5:11-12 – And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. (12) He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.
    - What record? Four Points to the record:
      - “that God hath given to us eternal life” - I John 2:25
      - <that> “this life is in his Son” - John 1:4; John 5:26; 14:6; 11:25
      - <that> “He that hath the Son hath life” - I John 4:9; Romans 6:23; John 17:1-3; Colossian 3:4; John 6:40
      - <that> “he that hath not the Son of God hath not life” - John 3:18-20; 3:36
  - I John 5:13 - These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. - John 20:31

## I John 5:14-21

- Our Opportunity of a Prayer Life: I John 5:14-15 - And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: (15) And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.
  - I John 5:14a - "And this is the confidence that we have in him" - Psalms 65:5; Proverbs 14:26; Ephesians 3:11-12
  - I John 5:14b - "if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us"
    - We receive when:
      - Our Father in Heaven knows how to take care of believers: Matthew 7:7-11
      - It must be in the name of Jesus: John 14:13
      - You must be in an abiding relationship with Christ: John 15:7 - Proverbs 15:29; Psalms 34:17
    - In contrast we do not received when: John 9:31; James 4:3; 1:5-8; Matthew 21:22
  - I John 5:15a - "if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask" – Do you know that God hears us? - Mark 11:24; Psalms 72:12-13; Isaiah 41:17
  - I John 5:15b - "we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him" – Do you have needs to ask God? - Psalms 86:1
- I John 5:16-17 - If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it. (17) All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.
  - Different levels of sin
    - I John 5:16c - "There is a sin unto death" - Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26-27 (Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit: Matthew 12:31-32; Jeremiah 7:16; 11:14; 14:11-12; Ananias and Sapphires: Acts 5:3-5; Taking the Lord Supper in vain: I Corinthians 11:28-30
    - I John 5:17b - "there is a sin not unto death" - I John 1:9, 7; Psalms 32:5; Proverbs 28:13
    - What are the differences? - severity of the sin; impact of the sin; judgment of the sin
    - Who decides? – God
  - I John 5:16a - "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death"
    - What is he to do: I John 5:16b - "he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death" - II Corinthians 5:18-20; James 5:15-16
  - I John 5:16d - "I do not say that he shall pray for it <There is a sin unto death> - Why?
  - Matthew 5:7; Luke 6:36; Romans 12:19-21; II Corinthians 5:11a
- I John 5:17a - "All unrighteousness is sin" - James 4:17; Romans 14:23; Proverbs 24:9; 21:3
- The Three We Know: I John 5:18-20
  - I John 5:18 - We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.
    - God the Son keeps us: John 10:28
    - God the Father keeps us: John 10:29
    - God the Holy Spirit keeps us: Ephesians 4:30
    - Dual nature of man: Romans 7:25
    - God is still working in us: Philippians 1:6
  - I John 5:19 - And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.
    - "And we know that we are of God" - Romans 8:16
    - "the whole world lieth in wickedness" - Matthew 4:8-9; II Corinthians 4:4a; Ephesians 2:2-3
  - I John 5:20 - And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.
    - "And we know that the Son of God is come" - John 1:14
    - "hath given us an understanding" - John 16:13
    - "that we may know him that is true" - John 14:6

- "we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ" - Romans 6:3-4
- "This is the true God, and eternal life"
  - Jesus is the true God - John 1:1
  - Jesus is life (eternal life) - John 14:6
- I John 5:21 - Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen. - Not literal just idolatry as in the time in the past, but also false belief!