

1 John – Part 2

And Because We Are God's Children

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1 John 2:1-29

Christ Our Advocate

- ¹ My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
- ² And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.
- ³ Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.
- ⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
- ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.
- ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

The New Commandment

- ⁷ Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.
- ⁸ Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.
- ⁹ He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.
- ¹⁰ He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.
- ¹¹ But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.
- ¹² I write to you, little children, Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.
- ¹³ I 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 wicked one. I write to you, little children, Because you have known the Father.
- ¹⁴ I have written to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one.

Do Not Love the World

- ¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.
- ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Warning Concerning Antichrists

¹⁸ Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.

¹⁹ They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

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

²¹ I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

²² Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.

²³ Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

²⁴ Therefore let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.

²⁵ And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.

²⁶ These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you.

²⁷ But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

Children of God

²⁸ And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

²⁹ If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

Main Points

In this chapter, John writes to remind the people of God that they are the children of God and that they are born of the Spirit. He warns them that the spirit of antichrist is everywhere, and the deception will be rampant in the last days. Because of this incredible adversity that will come against God's children, he encourages them to abide in the truth and to continue to walk in love.

We are the children of God and because we are His children...

- John calls Christians by the tender Greek word “**teknia**” which means “born ones” or “bairns”, therefore, God is addressing His very own born-again children
- It is John who wrote that we must be born again (John 3).

1) Jesus IS our defense lawyer and High Priest

a) The test of knowing Christ

- Those who are in Christ will bear the same fruit in their lives that Christ bears—and that is righteousness
- It is possible that Christians who are strongly tempted will sin for a time, but they will not keep it up.

Christ Our Advocate

1 John 2:1-6

¹ I write this, dear children, to guide you out of sin. But if anyone does sin, we have a Priest-Friend in the presence of the Father: Jesus Christ, righteous Jesus.

² When he served as a sacrifice for our sins, he solved the sin problem for good—not only ours, but the whole world's.

³ Here's how we can be sure that we know God in the right way: Keep his commandments.

⁴ If someone claims, "I know him well!" but doesn't keep his commandments, he's obviously a liar. His life doesn't match his words.

⁵ But the one who keeps God's word is the person in whom we see God's mature love. This is the only way to be sure we're in God.

⁶ Anyone who claims to be intimate with God ought to live the same kind of life Jesus lived. (The Message)

2) The new commandment IS to love one another

a) "He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now" (1 John 2:9)

- Love changes a person. Love makes us have a concern for the welfare of others
- God speaks of our feelings toward others as personal attitudes
- There are three chief attitudes toward others:
 - i. Hatred, which is murder (1 John 3:15)
 - ii. Indifference, or no concern, which is akin to hate (1 John 4:20-21)
 - iii. Love shows itself in different ways (1 John 2:9-11; 3:14):
 - Physically—in concern for the welfare of others (1 John 3:16-18)
 - Spiritually—in concern for the souls of others.

The New Commandment

1 John 2:9-11; 14

⁹ Anyone who claims to live in God's light and hates a brother or sister is still in the dark.

¹⁰ It's the person who loves brother and sister who dwells in God's light and doesn't block the light from others.

¹¹ But whoever hates is still in the dark, stumbles around in the dark, doesn't know which end is up, blinded by the darkness.

¹⁴ You veterans know the One who started it all; and you newcomers—such vitality and strength! God's word is so steady in you. Your fellowship with God enables you to gain a victory over the Evil One. (The Message)

3) The anointing IS superior

- a) The deceptions of the last days will be furious and without mercy
- b) Holy Spirit has anointed each and everyone of His children. To be anointed means to be set apart and dedicated for the work of the Lord.

1 John 2:18

Children, time is just about up. You heard that Antichrist is coming. Well, they're all over the place, antichrists everywhere you look. That's how we know that we're close to the end. (The Message)

1John 2:26-27

²⁶ I've written to warn you about those who are trying to deceive you.

²⁷ But they're no match for what is embedded deeply within you—Christ's anointing, no less! You don't need any of their so-called teaching. Christ's anointing teaches you the truth on everything you need to know about yourself and him, uncontaminated by a single lie. Live deeply in what you were taught. (The message)

- “If any man loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him” (1 John 2:15)
 - We live in a “present evil world” (Galatians 1:4)
- The scheme of things as they exist today is not the standard for the Christian
- Whenever you find Christians obeying the world's standards, they are walking on forbidden ground
- All sins may be put into three categories (1 John 2:16-17):
 - 1) Lust of the flesh
 - 2) Lust of the eyes
 - 3) Pride of life.

4) The child of God IS ready for His return

- a) 1 John 2:6 - He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. (NKJV)
- b) **ABIDE** – in Christ – live in Him, move in Him (John 15:1-8)
 - When the believer abides in Christ, they are fruitful
- c) The New Commandment is that we should be “Christlike” in all that we do in life. Christ says, “Ye are the salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13)
 - Salt preserves food from spoiling. Are you the preservative of your crowd?

1John 2:28-29

²⁸ And now, children, stay with Christ. Live deeply in Christ. Then we'll be ready for him when he appears, ready to receive him with open arms, with no cause for red-faced guilt or lame excuses when he arrives.

²⁹ Once you're convinced that he is right and righteous, you'll recognize that all who practice righteousness are God's true children. (The message)

Small Group Questions

1. Give present day examples of Anti-Christ. How does this spirit operate in our society?
2. How do we abide in Christ? Give three examples.
3. What does it mean to abide in Christ?
4. Describe the anointing. How is the Christian anointed and for what purpose?
5. How can Jesus be both our defense lawyer and High Priest?
6. How is the agape love of God different than any other love?
7. What is the difference between sin and iniquity?