

1 JOHN

THE LETTER

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1 JOHN - The LETTER

Chapter One

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every reference to God the Father, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red triangle.

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every reference to God's Son, Jesus Christ, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cross.

(In future chapters we will mark every reference to God's Holy Spirit, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cloud.)

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every reference to truth, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red box filled in with yellow.

Read through **1 John 1** and highlight every reference to life, including pronouns and synonyms, with green. (Hint: What is "which" referring to?)

Read through **1 John 1** and highlight every reference to the Light, including pronouns and synonyms, with yellow.

Read through **1 John 1** and mark testify, proclaim, write, or announce, including pronouns and synonyms, with a green trumpet.

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every reference to fellowship, including pronouns and synonyms, with two overlapping pink circles.

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every reference to righteousness, including pronouns and synonyms, with a blue capital "R+".

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every reference to unrighteousness, including pronouns and synonyms, with a blue capital "R-".

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every reference to darkness, including pronouns and synonyms, with a black box filled in lightly with black.

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every reference to sin, including pronouns and synonyms, with an orange “do-not” sign. I.e. an orange circle with a diagonal slash through it.

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every time phrase with a blue box.

Read through **1 John 1** and mark every contrast with a bold pink diagonal slash.

Read through **1 John 1** and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. Word of Life
2. God is Light—no darkness at all in Him!

READ AND ANSWER



**The book of 1 John does not start with a salutation to the audience.
Nor does it start with the identification of the author.
Yet due to internal and external evidence,
scholarship does not generally debate John’s authorship.**

1 John 1:1-4

What list do you find in the first verse?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

What do all these things refer to?

What do all these things concern?

Who or what is the Word of Life?

Was Jesus “from the beginning”?

Was the Word of Life from the beginning?

Was Jesus God?

Had John and the other believers (possibly other apostles) heard about Jesus the Son of God?

Had John and the other believers heard the message of eternal life?

Had Jesus the Son of God been seen with their own eyes?

Had they looked at Him?

Had they touched Him with their own hands?



**Is John repeating himself when he says they saw Jesus with their own eyes and then says they looked at and touched Him with their hands?
Not at all.**

The word “seen” comes from the Hebrew word *horao* and means to see, to perceive, to behold.

The phrase “looked at” comes from the Hebrew word *theaomai* and means to gaze upon, to discern with the eyes.

The word “touched” comes from the Hebrew word *pselaphao* and means to feel or grope about.

Horao is referring to the fact that Jesus was visible while on earth. *Theaomai* is referring more to the fact that He was made manifest in the flesh and shows the idea of using one’s eyes and mind to observe Him carefully.

What was manifested?

What had John and other believers done with the message of eternal life?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Who, or what, (or Who and what) was with the Father?

- 1.
- 2.

Who, or what, (or Who and what) was manifested to believers?

- 1.
- 2.

What had John and other believers done with what they had seen and heard?

Why did John proclaim the message of eternal life in Jesus the Son of God to others?
What would be the result for them?

Who would have fellowship with whom?

With Whom did John already have fellowship?

1.

2.

Why does John say he is writing this letter? (*When John states why he is writing his letter he is giving us the purpose of **1 John**. Mark this verse in the margin of your Bible with a bracket labeled "Purpose". John will clearly identify his purpose many times in his letter. Mark it with a labeled bracket each time.*)



William Tyndale used this paraphrased version of the verses of 1 John 1:4 to help his readers understand the complex paragraph.

***"We proclaim to you, concerning the word of life,
what was from the beginning,
which we have seen, heard and touched,
and the objects of our proclamation are fellowship and joy."***

How will his joy be made complete?



2 John 4

***I was very glad to find some of your children walking in truth,
just as we have received commandment to do from the Father.***

3 John 3, 4

***For I was very glad when brethren came and testified to your truth,
that is, how you are walking in truth.
I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.***

1 John 1:5-10

From Whom has John heard the message he announces?

What is the message from God that John announces?

Because God is Light, can there be any darkness in Him at all?



**So... how much darkness is in God?
None at all...?**

That should cause each of us to examine our own actions.

**If we are in Him,
what needs to be true of us if we are truly reflecting Who He is?
If we are in Him,
what needs to be true of our actions if we are truly reflecting Who He is?**

By the way—there would be no reflection without The Light!

John reasons with his audience (you and me included) and contrasts walking in darkness with walking in the Light. First he addresses darkness in a person's walk. If a person walks in darkness and yet says he has fellowship with God, what do we know? (Notice he uses the word "we" and is referring to those who call themselves Christians.)

1.

2.

What is the lie?



Hmmmm...

**If we walk in darkness we do not have fellowship with God.
That's what God says.**

**That's the truth.
I believe God.**

In contrast, what is true if we walk in the Light?

- 1.
- 2.



**If we walk in the Light, not only will we have fellowship with God,
but we will have fellowship with other believers, as well.
And, if we walk in the Light, the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

**Why would any believer walk in darkness?
How could any believer walk in darkness?
As we work our way through the book of 1 John,
the answer will continue to be
that it is not possible for a believer to walk in darkness.**

**This most certainly demands our attention.
How will you respond?
In denial... or in Truth?**

What is true if we say that we have no sin?

- 1.
- 2.



**While it is not possible for a believer to walk in darkness,
it is possible and inevitable that a believer will sin.
Is this a contradiction?
Not at all!**

The verb walk is in the present tense in the Greek.

**The present tense refers to action which is continuous, linear, or repeated.
To walk in darkness means to “walk in darkness as a way of life”.**

What is a believer to do if he sins?

What will God do if we confess our sins to Him?

1.

2.

Why will He forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness?

1.

2.

What is true if we won't admit our sin?

1.

2.

READ AND REASON

If you marked all the references to truth, so far in this chapter you would have five red boxes filled in with yellow. You would also have two more references marked in the rest of this chapter. Does that make the truth key in this chapter?

If you marked all the references to the truth in the entire book of **1 John** you will have 55 red boxes filled in with yellow! It is the most used word in John's book. What must the book of **1 John** be about?

The theme of the book of **1 John** is not simply a discourse on the truth, but an exhortation to believe the truth and walk in it!

He clearly and firmly repudiates the lie that a believer does not need to look like His Father. Sons are supposed to look like their fathers because it brings glory to the father. In this day and age of independence and rebellion the purpose of families is often forgotten. God established families in order to show us a picture of Who He is and what He expects from us. If we are saved, we are born of God; and if we are born of God, we are to resemble Him as closely as possible. This resemblance shows the world Who God really is and brings Him Glory!

Chapter by Chapter

What is **1 John Chapter 1** mainly and plainly about?

Theme of 1 John Chapter 1

1 JOHN - The LETTER

Chapter Two

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to God the Father, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red triangle.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to God's Son, Jesus Christ, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cross.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to God's Holy Spirit, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cloud.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to being in Him with a red downward arrow over the word "in".

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to truth, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red box filled in with yellow. I.e. His commandments, truth, word, which, word of God, will of God, etc.

Read through **1 John 2** and highlight every reference to life, including pronouns and synonyms with green.

Read through **1 John 2** and highlight every reference to the Light, including pronouns and synonyms, with yellow.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark testify, proclaim, write, or announce, including pronouns and synonyms, with a green trumpet.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to love with a red heart filled in with pink.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to darkness, including pronouns and synonyms, with a black box filled in lightly with black.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to sin, including pronouns and synonyms, with an orange “do-not” sign. I.e. an orange circle with a diagonal slash through it.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to the world with a black circle.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to knowing truth/Him with a black check mark. When the phrase begins with “by this” put a green “X” over the word “this”.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to the phrase “born of Him” with a blue box filled in with pink.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to abide with a filled in turquoise circle.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every reference to antichrist using a red cross overlaid with the do-not symbol.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every time phrase with a blue box.

Read through **1 John 2** and mark every contrast with a bold pink diagonal slash.

Read through **1 John 2** and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. Writing to little children
2. Know Him = Keep His commandments
3. Old Commandment/New Commandment
4. Writing to little children, fathers, sons
5. Love of the Father is not in the one who loves the world
6. Antichrists and anointing (leaving truth or staying in truth)
7. Let Truth abide in you and you won't be deceived
8. Little children—confidence at His appearing

READ AND ANSWER

1 John 2:1-2

To whom is John writing?

Why is John writing these things? *(When John states why he is writing his letter he is giving us the purpose of **1 John**. Mark this verse in the margin of your Bible with a bracket labeled "Purpose". John will clearly identify his purpose many times in his letter. Mark it with a labeled bracket each time.)*

How will **1 John** (what John wrote) keep someone from sinning?

What is available if someone should sin?

Who is the Advocate?

With Whom does the Advocate intercede?

How is Jesus Christ described?

Why do we need an Advocate?

What is He interceding about?

What have we done?

What is Jesus?

Who needs to be propitiated? (the means of forgiveness)

How is God satisfied that justice has been paid for our crimes of sin against Him, our Creator? How is He able to forgive us for our sins?

Why is it important that John called Jesus Christ "the righteous one" in this verse?

What did Jesus need to be in order to be the propitiation for our sins? (If Jesus was not righteous could He have been our propitiation? Don't just answer this question without reasoning it through.)

For whose sins is Jesus Christ the righteous the propitiation?

1.

2.

1 John 2:3-6

How can we know if we truly know God?

What is true of the one who says he has come to know God but does not keep God's commandments?

1.

2.

Have you come to know Him if you do not keep His commandments?

Is the truth in you if you do not keep His commandments?

What is true of the one who keeps God's Word?

How is the love of God truly perfected in a Christian?

If we truly have the love of God what will we do?

How can you know that you are in God?

How can you know that you are abiding in God?

If you do not walk in the same manner as Jesus walked, what can you know?



Point of Reference

1 John 4:11-21

***Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
No one has seen God at any time;
if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.
By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us,
because He has given us of His Spirit.
We have seen and testify
that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.
Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God,
God abides in him, and he in God.
We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us.
God is love,
and the one who abides in love abides in God,
and God abides in him.
By this, love is perfected with us,
so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment;
because as He is, so also are we in this world.
There is no fear in love;
but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment,
and the one who fears is not perfected in love.
We love, because He first loved us.
If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar;
for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen,
cannot love God whom he has not seen.
And this commandment we have from Him,
that the one who loves God should love his brother also.***

1 John 2:7-11

Is John writing a new commandment to his audience?

Is John writing an old commandment to his audience?

How does he define an old commandment?

How long has his audience had the old commandment?

From the beginning of what?

What is the old commandment?

What is the word they had heard? (**1 John 1:1**)

What does it mean that the new commandment is true in Him?

What does it mean that the new commandment is true in them?

So it's not a new commandment because they have had it since they first believed. So it's an old commandment because they have had it since they first believed. On the other hand John says it can be seen as a new commandment. How? What is happening to them as believers?

1.

2.

What is causing the darkness to pass away?

What is happening when the Light shines in the life of a believer?



Point of Depth

**Is light given just so you can see,
or is it given so that you can walk... because you see?**

What is true of the person who says they are in the Light yet hates his brother?

Has he just gone into darkness?

How long has he been in darkness?

How can this be? (**1 John 2:8**)

Is someone who hates his brother in the Light?

On the contrary, what is true of the one who is abiding in the Light?

1.

2.

What is true (John says again) of the one who hates his brother?

1.

2.

3.

4.

Why doesn't he know where he is going?

Sadly, I have known people who are identified by this verse...

1 John 2:12-14

Who is John writing to?

Does he mean they are not very old in years of life?

What does he mean when he calls them little children?

Why is John writing to these little children?

What is true about these little children?

Why were their sins forgiven?



**For His Name's sake...
He will have His Glory...**

To whom else is John writing?

Who are the fathers? Are they earthly fathers?

Why?

Who do the fathers know?

Who has been from the beginning? (**1 John 1:1**)

What is true about those who know God? (**1 John 2:3-6**)

Who else is John writing to?

Who are the young men? Is it referring to their physical age?

Why is John writing to them? What is true about the young men?

Who else is John writing to?

Why is he writing to the children? *(When John states why he is writing his letter he is giving us the purpose of **1 John**. Mark this verse in the margin of your Bible with a bracket labeled "Purpose". John will clearly identify his purpose many times in his letter. Mark it with a labeled bracket each time.)*

If the little children's sins were forgiven for the Lord's Name's sake, what is the reasonable response to what John is writing?

John speaks to the fathers again. What does he tell the fathers is the reason he has written to them?

Who has been from the beginning?

If the fathers know God Who has been from the beginning, what is the reasonable response to what John is writing?

Who does he address again?

Why has he written to the young men?

1.

2.

3.

If the young men were strong, and the Word of God was abiding in them, and they had overcome the evil one, what is the reasonable response to what John is writing?

Just to make sure we don't miss something, let's list what John says to each group. What did he tell the little children was true about them?

What did John tell the fathers was true about them?

What did John tell the children was true about them?

What did John tell the young men was true about them?

1 John 2:15-17

What is John's audience commanded not to do?

1.

2.

Even if you do not love the entire world system (or think you don't) what still cannot be true of you if you are His?

If you love the world, what is true about you?

Why can the love of the Father not be in you if you love the world?

What examples of "things of the world" does John give?

1.

2.

3.

Where is the lust of the flesh from?

Where is it not from?

Where is the lust of the eyes from?

Where is it not from?

Where is the boastful pride of life from?

Where is it not from?

What is passing away?

1.

2.

What is true, in contrast, to the one who does the will of God?



Point of Reference

1 John 5:13

***These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God,
so that you may know that you have eternal life.***

Is loving the world part of God's will?

Is loving the world apart from God's will?



**This is such a huge element in the false church of modern times.
So many people (most churchgoers)
want to believe that they do not love the world
because they only participate in “clean” worldly things
or generally accepted worldly things.**

**They are so wrong...
God says completely the opposite.**

**Do not love the world.
Do not love the things in the world.
The love of God is not in you if you do...**

**What do you need to change about your life?
If you have come to know Him you *will* keep His commandments...**

1 John 2:18-25

In the expanse of time, how does John describe the present?

If it was the last hour in the days of John, is it any later today?

Who is coming in the last hour?

Who is closer to coming than ever before?

Even though the antichrist had not yet come when he wrote his letter, who had already appeared?

If antichrists had appeared as forerunners to the antichrist in the time of John, what can we know about the presence or absence of antichrists in our world today?

How can we know that it is the last hour?

Do we have antichrists prevalent in our world today?

Do we have antichrists prevalent in the church at large today? (I am referring to the institutionalized church, which is huge—not the true body of Christ, which is very small.)

Where did these antichrists appear?

What does it mean when it says that the antichrists were really not of us?

Who is “us” referring to?

From where did they go out?

Where did they go to?

If they had really been Christian, rather than antichrist, what would they have done?

Why did they leave?

Did they leave because they wanted to show they were not really part of the true church?

Did they leave because God wanted to show they were not really part of His true church?

Who was really in charge of their leaving?

What is contrasted in **verse 20** with the antichrists leaving?

In contrast to the antichrists leaving, what did those who truly believed do?

Who were the ones who remained?

Did John write to his audience because they did not know the truth?

Why has John written? (*When John states why he is writing his letter he is giving us the purpose of **1 John**. Mark this verse in the margin of your Bible with a bracket labeled "Purpose". John will clearly identify his purpose many times in his letter. Mark it with a labeled bracket each time.*)

1.

2.

Who is the liar?

Who is the antichrist?

1.

2.

What is true of the one who denies the Son?

What is true of the one who confesses the Son?

Not only does the one who confesses the Son have the Son, but Who else does he have?



The Greek word for “denies” is *arneomai* and means to deny, disclaim, or disown.

The Greek word for “confess” is *homologeō* and means to speak the same thing, to speak in accordance, to adopt the same terms of language, engage, promise, profess.

Both verbs are in the present tense and express continual action.

Interestingly, the word translated confess is in the active voice which shows that the subject is doing the action of the verb. The word translated denies, however, is in the middle voice which indicates the subject is acting in relationship to itself or is participating in the results of the action of the verb.

Can this mean that to confess Him requires a definite personal action on our own part, while denying Him includes a much broader arena?

Ask God to open your eyes to behold wonderful things from His Word... and then study as hard and as well as you can.

What exhortation does John give his audience?

What are they told to let abide in them?

What have they heard from the beginning? (**1 John 1:1-3**)

What will be the result of letting that which they heard from the beginning (the message of eternal life—Truth) abide in them?

1.

2.

Who made a promise to believers?

What promise did He make?



1 John 1:1-3

***What was from the beginning,
what we have heard,
what we have seen with our eyes,
what we have looked at and touched with our hands,
concerning the Word of Life—
and the life was manifested,
and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life,
which was with the Father and was manifested to us—
what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also,
so that you too may have fellowship with us;
and indeed our fellowship is with the Father,
and with His Son Jesus Christ.***

1 John 5:13

***These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God,
so that you may know that you have eternal life.***

1 John 2:26-27

John lets them know his purpose in writing to them again. What is it? (*Be sure and mark it in your margin.*)

We could easily tell that his audience had been confronted with lies just by the context, but what do you find out here specifically?

Who was trying to deceive them? (Let your answer be based on the context of this chapter.)

What does John say is true about his audience? What abides in them?

What do they have no need of?

Why don't they need anyone to teach them?

What, or Who, teaches them?

What is true?

What is not a lie?

What, or Who, has taught them to abide in Him?



The meaning of the anointing referred to in this chapter is undoubtedly debated, but only because too many people want to bring an idea to the Bible and then line the Bible up with their idea, rather than lining up their idea with the Bible.

The Word of God remains firm and steadfast and does not line itself up with anything!

The Greek word for “anoint” is *chrisma* and means to mark out, to smear.

The anointing, in this context, is referring to both the Holy Spirit and the apostolic teaching John’s audience had heard through Him.

The Word of God, through the Holy Spirit, was what they needed to remain steadfast in Truth. They would be seen as having been marked out by God to be His as they remained true to His Word by the power of the Holy Spirit.

1 John 2:28-29

Whom does John address?

What does John command the little children to do?

What does John say the result of abiding in Him will be?

1.

2.

What will happen when He appears?

What will happen at His coming?

If we have not abided in Him during our life, what will we lack when He appears?

Why would anyone shrink away from Him at His coming?

If you truly know that He is righteous (because He truly is) what else do you know?

Who are those who practice true righteousness?



Point of Depth

**Like produces like—
a grain of wheat produces more wheat, not beans or corn.**

**If you are born of Him—
What will you be?
Who will you look like?**

How will you resemble Him? (What is He? And what are those who are born of Him?)

READ AND REASON

The Bloody Red Smear Still Shouts

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Do you know what the word anoint means?

The Hebrew word is *mashach* and it means “to smear”.

The Greek word is *chrisma* and it means the same thing—to mark or to smear.

Interesting definition, isn't it?

Unfortunately the meaning of the word anoint has been abused and distorted by so many false teachers nowadays that it is almost impossible to use the word without its original intent being lost. Let me say up front—there is no supernatural anointing that “hangs around in the air and adheres itself to things of this earth”. Rather, the anointing unambiguously means that something is clearly seen as marked for whatever it is. As in, there are ten piles of papers and you put a sticky note on the pile you want someone to take—the sticky note anoints the correct pile. Almost too simple, isn't it? Man always wants to improve on God's purity—and always ends in corruption.

The Hebrew word (Old Testament) for anointed, *mashach*, is changed to *mashiach* when it refers to the Lord's anointed—the one whom the Lord smears, marks out, or anoints.

The Greek word (New Testament) for the Lord's anointed is *chrīo*, from which we derive the word Christ.

Everything Jesus said and did is part and parcel of the anointing God put on Him—God marked out Jesus as the One He had promised to send way back in **Genesis 3:15**. The world could not miss this anointing—Jesus was clearly marked for all to see—His preaching, teaching, miracles, healing and prayer life all marked Him out as the Messiah of God! Why did Jesus do the things He did? Because those things showed Him as the Lord's anointed.

Luke 4:18-19

The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.

What showed Jesus as the “smeared One” of God? His preaching of His Gospel message, His teaching, His miracles, His healings, His prayer life—His ministry!

Isaiah 61:1-2a

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners; to proclaim the favorable year of the LORD.

How did He accomplish His ministry? Through the Spirit of the Lord God!
Jesus of Nazareth was “smeared” with the Holy Spirit of God!
He would be recognized!

Acts 10:38

*You know of Jesus of Nazareth,
how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power,
and how He went about doing good
and healing all who were oppressed by the devil,
for God was with Him.*

One year WORD Center Ministries needed to take down a group of trees which were surrounding our ministry building. However, mixed in with the trees to be taken down were trees which we wanted to leave in place.

What did we do? We anointed the ones that were to be left alone—we marked them with paint for identification purposes.

Next came a man on a bulldozer who could see each and every tree, and according to whether it was anointed or not, knew if the tree was to be taken down or left alone. Sadly, that man on the bulldozer was not a righteous man and he bulldozed right through the trees leaving much havoc and destruction in his path. He took down many trees that were not to be destroyed. It was heart-breaking looking at those beautiful trees lying splintered on the ground with a big red "x" on them. They were sacrificed for that man's refusal to submit to authority.

I couldn't help but think of Jesus, everything He did... everything He said... everything about Him... His preaching, His teaching, His miracles, His healings, His prayer life—all were like huge red marks declaring, *"This is the One. He is My Son! I have sent Him! Listen to Him! Hear Him!"* And yet the people paid no attention to His anointing and they cut Him down...

Even after His death, even today, the bloody red smear still shouts,
*"This is the Coming One! This is the Promised One!
This is the Anointed One! This is the Messiah!"*
If people would only open their eyes to see Him,
they would see His anointing and *know* He is *Mashiach*, the Christ!

Chapter by Chapter

What is **1 John Chapter 2** mainly and plainly about?

Theme of 1 John Chapter 1

Theme of 1 John Chapter 2

1 JOHN - The LETTER

Chapter Three

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every reference to God the Father, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red triangle.

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every reference to God's Son, Jesus Christ, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cross.

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every reference to truth, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red box filled in with yellow.

Read through **1 John 3** and highlight every reference to life, including pronouns and synonyms, with green.

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every reference to love with a red heart filled in with pink.

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every reference to sin, including pronouns and synonyms, with an orange "do-not" sign. I.e. an orange circle with a diagonal slash through it.

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every time phrase with a blue box.

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every contrast with a bold pink diagonal slash.

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every reference to knowing truth/Him with a black check mark. When the phrase begins with "by this" put a green "X" over the word "this".

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every reference to the phrase "born of Him" with a blue box filled in with pink. Mark all pronouns and synonyms in the same way. I.e. children of God, from God, etc.

Read through **1 John 3** and mark every reference to abide with a filled in turquoise circle.

Read through **1 John 3** and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. His Appearing
2. No one born of God sins
3. World hates you—you love brethren
4. Love in deed and truth
5. Confidence before God
6. His commandment—believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another
7. We abide in Him—He abides in us

READ AND ANSWER

1 John 3:1-3

What has been bestowed on believers?

Who has bestowed this great love?

How has God bestowed His great love on us?

Do believers just have the name, children of God, or are they truly children of God?

Why doesn't the world know the children of God?

Here it is again—the simple fact that Christians look like Christ, children of God look like God, and they do not look like the world. Why doesn't the world know Christians?



Point of Depth

**Does the world know you?
If it does, and you call yourself a Christian,
what is wrong according to 1 John 3:1?**

Have you made God like the world?

What must change?

Do you need to be more like God?

**If the world did not know God, and you are His child,
the world will not know you.
That's a fact.**

What does John call his listeners?

Who loves them?

What does John say is true of believers?

What does John say is true of children of God?

Although we are not completely changed into what we will be someday, we still resemble our heavenly Father more and more and more as He continues to sanctify us, —from glory to glory. When will we be changed to be completely like Him? (This is not saying we will ever be God, just like God—as in holiness.)

Why will we be like Him when He appears?

What about in the meantime, before He comes—should we keep trying to be like Him?

Why?

What will we do while we wait for Him to appear?

Why will each true Christian purify himself?

What is our standard of purity?

1 John 3:4-10

What is true of everyone, yes, everyone, who practices sin?

What is true of everyone who practices lawlessness?

What is sin?

What is lawlessness?

Why did Christ appear?

Is it a certainty that Christ appeared to take away sins?

Did He come to take away the penalty of sin or did He come to take away sins? What does God say?



**Did Jesus accomplish the task that God gave Him to do—
did He actually take away sins?**

**Was He successful in living a perfect life?
Was He successful in offering that life as a sacrificial propitiation for sinners?
Was the Father pleased with what He did?
Did the Father accept His perfect sacrifice?
Did the Father give Him what He promised, the Holy Spirit?
Did Jesus pour out the Holy Spirit to believers?
Does the Holy Spirit cause a person to walk in righteousness?
Does the Holy Spirit sanctify the believer?**

The answer to all these is a resounding and confident, “Yes!”

**To deny this answer, to even doubt it,
is to deny the Truth—the message of the Gospel of Eternal Life!**



Point of Reference

Matthew 1:21

***She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus,
for He will save His people from their sins.***

What is not in Him?

If we are in Him, what cannot be in us?

Can anyone who abides in Him sin?

Does the one who sins know Him?

Does the one who sins see Him?

Has the one who sins ever seen Him?

Has the one who sins ever known Him?

What then, is true of a person who calls himself a Christian yet lives in continual sin?

Is it true that no one born of God sins (practices sin)?

Is this unclear at all?



Point of Depth

**Why is it so hard (for many)
to accept this clear and repeated teaching in the book of 1 John?**

**John has said it from the beginning of the book and will continue to say it.
Yet one pew person after another**

tries to make what John has written say something other than it does.

Why?

**Perhaps they have a lot at stake;
like losing a relationship with a loved one who is living in sin—
a loved one who said they “accepted Christ” at one time or another in their life.**

**Perhaps they have a lot at stake;
like admitting to themselves that the life they lead
does not look like God, the Father—
a life that would have to change in order to continue bearing the Name of Christ.**

John knows his listeners have been tempted to not believe this truth and he addresses the deception. What does he call them?

What are they to make sure of?

What deception are they to make sure they don't believe?

What is the truth they are to believe instead?

1.

2.

Who is the one who is righteous?

Righteousness based on what standard?

What is true of the one who practices righteousness?

What is true of the one who practices sin?

How can you know? What is true of the devil?

Why did the Son of God appear? What was His purpose?

What are the works of the devil? (What is synonymous with the works of the devil?)

Did the Son of God succeed in the lives of His followers?



**Sometimes it helps to see things laid out in a different format.
Let's take those few verses out of the second paragraph,
the ones about making sure we are not deceived,
and put them into more of a list form.**

DO NOT BE DECEIVED.

**The one who practices righteousness = is righteous
God = is righteous
The one who practices righteousness = just like God
God = is righteous**

**The one who practices sin = not righteous
Devil = not righteous
The one who practices sin = just like the devil
Devil (liar from beginning) = not righteous**

John is not done making his point. Does anyone, anyone at all, who is born of God practice sin?

Why not?

If the seed of God, The SEED, Jesus Christ abides in a person, what does it produce?



**What life does a bean seed produce?
What life does a grain of corn produce?**

**What life does a tomato seed produce?
What life does The SEED, Jesus Christ, produce?**

1 Corinthians 15:36

...that which you sow does not come to life unless it dies...

Romans 6:1-11

What shall we say then?

Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase?

May it never be!

How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

***Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus
have been baptized into His death?***

***Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death,
so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father,
so we too might walk in newness of life.***

***For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death,
certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection,
knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him,
in order that our body of sin might be done away with,
so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;
for he who has died is freed from sin.***

***Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,
knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again;
death no longer is master over Him.***

***For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all;
but the life that He lives, He lives to God.***

Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**If we have been buried with Him it is because we have died with Him.
If we have died with Him we have certainly been raised to a new life with/in Him.
Our life is now His life—one lived unto God!**

Can a person sin (present tense) if he has been born of God?

Why not?



If you are born of God you look like your Father.

**God, the Father, is righteous,
so his children practice righteousness because they are His seed...**

**This is way more than just a principle for living.
This is a principle of life!**

This is way more than just a suggestion, or even a command, on how to live.

This is the fact that you have been changed if you are born of God

You are a new creature—actually, a new “species” so to speak.

You were a human,

but a born-again believer is a human *with* the spirit of God dwelling in him.

You have been changed from the inside out.

You have a new spirit.

You have a new heart—a heart of flesh that responds to God’s touch.

You now hunger and thirst for righteousness.

You have the Holy Spirit permanently in you *causing* you to walk in God’s ways—

His Holy Spirit causes you to be careful to observe His ordinances.

You are no longer a slave to sin—you are now a slave to righteousness.

**You have entered the New Covenant—
the covenant of grace, the covenant of Jesus Christ,
where God keeps both sides of the covenant.**

He keeps His side, giving you eternal life.

He keeps your side, causing you to walk in righteousness.

He has written His laws on your heart and put them in your mind.

He is your God. You are His child.

You know the Lord.

You are sanctified once for all and you are being sanctified.

You are perfected for all time and you are being sanctified.

You are no longer a slave, but a son—and as His son, you are an heir of God.

You know God.

You have the fear of God in your heart so you will not turn away from Him.

You are being transformed into the image of the Lord from glory to glory.

...and so much more!!!

Romans 6; Hebrews 8-10; 1 Corinthians 3; Galatians 3-4; Jeremiah 31; Ezekiel 36

Can you tell who is a child of God?

Can you tell who is a child of the devil?

Can you tell them apart?

Is it obvious or hard to tell?

How can you tell?

If someone does not practice righteousness, what can you know for sure about him?

If someone does not love his brother, what can you know for sure about him?



**Don't be confused here.
Let God alone define what it means to love the brethren.
He does so in 1 John very clearly.**

**It is not defined by sending a card, or taking someone a meal.
It is not defined by how another person reacts to your love.**

**It is defined by obeying God's commandments.
That is how we love the brethren.
That's what God says—so that is what it is.**

1 John 3:11-15

What is the message that believers have heard from the beginning of the message of eternal life?

What contrast to loving your brother does John give?



**Does John's example of Cain murdering his brother seem a little out of place?
Doesn't it seem obvious
that no one would think that murdering your brother would be loving him?**

His example is a perfect one.

Why?

**Because John is showing that loving your brother
is the opposite of murdering him.**

**Loving your brother is to bring life to your brother—
not happiness, not pleasure, but life, eternal life and all that goes with it,
including obedience.
That's how you love your brother.**

The question is—are you?

How does John describe Cain?

What did Cain do?

Why did Cain murder his brother?

1.

2.

Were Cain and his earthly brothers true brothers?

Why not?

At what are we not to be surprised?

Why not?

Will the world hate true followers of Jesus?



Point of Reference

Will the world hate true followers of Jesus?

Matthew 5:11

***Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you,
and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.***

Matthew 10:22

***You will be hated by all because of My name,
but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved.***

Matthew 24:9

***Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you,
and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.***

Mark 13:13

***You will be hated by all because of My name,
but the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.***

Luke 6:22

***Blessed are you when men hate you,
and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil,
for the sake of the Son of Man.***

Luke 21:17

and you will be hated by all because of My name.

John 15:18-19

***If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you.
If you were of the world, the world would love its own;
but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world,
because of this the world hates you.***

Questions need to be asked.

Do you claim to be a Christian?

If you claim to be a Christian—does the world hate you?

If you claim to be a Christian and the world does not hate you—why not?

Is it because God's Word is not true?

Or is it because you are not true?

What will we do if we have passed out of death into life?

If someone who claims to be a Christian does not love the brethren, what is true of him?

What is true of the one who hates his brother?

Can Christians be murderers?

What is true of all murderers?

1 John 3:16-18

How has love been modeled for us?

Should we follow Christ's example?

How can we follow His example?

What should you do if you see your brother in need of the world's goods and you are an owner of the very goods he needs?

If you do not give your brother what he needs, what are you doing?

Is it possible that the love of God is abiding in someone who has worldly goods that a Christian needs and does not give it to him?

What does John call his listeners?

How is love not shown?

1.

2.

Do word and tongue actually show true love?

What shows true love?

1.

2.

1 John 3:19-22

How can we know that we are of the truth? (**1 John 3:18**)

How can our heart be assured before God that we are of the truth? (**1 John 3:18**)

If our heart condemns us, how can we be assured that we are of the truth?

Who is greater than our hearts (minds, thoughts)?

What does God know?

Yes. God knows all things. What specific things is John referring to in this verse? (The answer is in **verses 16-18**. Get your answer from the text.)

How can we stop our heart from condemning us?

How can we persuade our heart before God?

Deeds and truth, rather than word or tongue, can persuade our heart before God. Once our heart has acquiesced to truth, rather than be condemned before God, what can we be before God?

If we are confident before God, what will we do?

When we ask God, what will we receive?

Why will we receive from God whatever we ask?

- 1.
- 2.

Will we be asking things for our own pleasure? What is the context?

What types of things will we ask? (Remember, the context is loving God and the brethren in deed and truth and not with word or tongue.)

Many people use this verse (and teach this verse) as though God is their waiter and they are “ordering” from the menu of their wants and desires. Can that be truth?

Why not?

1 John 3:23-24

What commandment does John refer to?

- 1.
- 2.

Whose commandment is it?

Is it a new commandment? How do you know?

What is true of the one who keeps God's commandments?

- 1.
- 2.

How do we know that God abides in us?

How do we know that God abides in us (if we keep His commandments)?

Who has given us the Spirit of God?

READ AND REASON

1 John 2:3-6 is a perfect cross-reference to **1 John 3:18-24**.

Read it and reason it through.

*By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.
The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments,
is a liar, and the truth is not in him;
but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected.
By this we know that we are in Him:
the one who says he abides in Him
ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.*

So is **1 John 4:7-13**.

Read it and reason through it.

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God;
and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.
By this the love of God was manifested in us,
that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world
so that we might live through Him.
In this is love, not that we loved God,
but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
No one has seen God at any time;
if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.
By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us,
because He has given us of His Spirit.*

And so is **1 John 5:1-3**.

Read it and reason through it.

*Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God,
and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.
By this we know that we love the children of God,*

*when we love God and observe His commandments.
For this is the love of God,
that we keep His commandments;
and His commandments are not burdensome.*

There are other passages in the book of **1 John** which interpret this part of **chapter 2**.
Read through the entire book again (it is only a small book)
and look for other cross-references which illumine the truth of this passage.
Scripture interprets Scripture.

Chapter by Chapter

What is **1 John Chapter 3** mainly and plainly about?

Theme of 1 John Chapter 1

Theme of 1 John Chapter 2

Theme of 1 John Chapter 3

1 JOHN - The LETTER

Chapter Four

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every reference to God the Father, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red triangle.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every reference to God's Son, Jesus Christ, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cross.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every reference to truth, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red box filled in with yellow.

Read through **1 John 4** and highlight every reference to life, including pronouns and synonyms, with green.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark testify, proclaim, write, or announce, including pronouns and synonyms, with a green trumpet.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every reference to love with a red heart filled in with pink.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every reference to sin, including pronouns and synonyms, with an orange "do-not" sign. I.e. an orange circle with a diagonal slash through it.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every reference to knowing truth/Him with a black check mark. When the phrase begins with "by this" put a green "X" over the word "this".

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every reference to the phrase "born of Him" with a blue box filled in with pink. Mark all pronouns and synonyms in the same way. I.e. children of God, from God, etc.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every reference to abide with a filled in turquoise circle.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every time phrase with a blue box.

Read through **1 John 4** and mark every contrast with a bold pink diagonal slash.

Read through **1 John 4** and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. False prophets/true prophets
2. God loved us
3. His love perfected in us

READ AND ANSWER

1 John 4:1-6

How does John address his audience?

What are the beloved commanded not to do?

What are the beloved commanded to do?

Why is this necessary?

How do you test the spirits?

Which spirit is from God?

Which spirits are not from God?

How do you know that a spirit is from God?

What does John call the spirit that does not confess Jesus?

What have his listeners heard?

What do they know is coming?

What does he tell them? What is already in the world?

Is John saying the actual final antichrist is in the world during his days?

If the spirit of the antichrist was already in the world during John's days, what can we know about the presence of the spirit of the antichrist in our days?

How does John address his audience?

What does John say is true about his little children?

1.

2.

Who is he who is in the world?

Who have they overcome? (Let your answer come from the text.)

God is the One Who is in them—who is the one who is in the world? (Let your answer come from the text.)



**God, Who is in believers, His children,
is greater than the spirit of the antichrist who is in the world.**

**Will God also be greater than the final antichrist
whenever he appears in the world?**

You better believe it!!!

Who are “they” that are from the world? (As always, get your answer from the text.)

Who speaks from the world?

Who listens to the antichrists?

Antichrists are from the world, their speech is like the world’s speech, and the world listens to them. Believers, however, are not from the world. Who are believers from?

Who listens to those from God?

Do those who are not from God listen to those who are from God?

What can we know about those who listen to us?

What can we know about those who do not listen to us?

Who are those who are the spirit of truth?

What is true about those who are the spirit of truth?

Who are those who are the spirit of error?

Who are true about those who are the spirit of error?

1 John 4:7-10

What does John, once again, call his listeners?

What does he tell them to do?

Why are they to love one another?

What is true about everyone who truly loves God?

1.

2.

What is true of the one who does not love?

Why is it true that the one who does not love does not know God?



The Greek word for “love” is *agape* and means generosity, kindly concern, devotion. This love is God-given and is not the same as other types of love which can be crushed. *Agape* love seeks after the best of the one it loves—his or her holiness.

What has been manifested in true believers?

How was the love of God manifested?

Who did God send into the world?

Why did God send His only begotten Son into the world?



**Live...
Everyone exists forever...
but most exist in eternal death
and some, only a few, will exist in eternal life.
Death is separation.**

Life is union.
Eternal life is eternal union with God through Jesus Christ His Son.

In what action do we find true love?

- 1.
- 2.

Where is love not found?



Point of Reference

1 John 2:5-6

***...but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected.
By this we know that we are in Him:
the one who says he abides in Him
ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.***

1 John 4:11-21

Why should we love one another? What reasoning does John give?

What does it mean that God so loved us? (Get your answer from **verse 10.**)

Has anyone seen God?

Has anyone ever seen God?

If we love one another, what is God doing?

- 1.
- 2.

How is God's love perfected in us?

Is John saying that if we are unsaved and think we are "loving" others God will abide in us?

Is John saying that we can cause Him to indwell us, or save us, if we will simply be kind and nice to others?

What is this passage saying, then?

Is **1 John** commanding us to love everyone, or is it referring to other believers?

In who, then, is God's love perfected?

If we are truly loving one another, as brothers and sisters in Christ, what can we be sure about?

1.

2.

How can we know that we abide in Him?

How can we know that He abides in us?

If we are in-dwelt by the Holy Spirit, what can we know for certain?

1.

2.

What have believers seen?

What do believers testify?

Who has sent the Son?

Whose Son is the Son?

For what purpose has the Father sent the Son?

Who is the Son? (1 John 1:3)

In whom does God abide?

Who abides in God?

What does it mean to confess that Jesus is the Son of God?



**Interestingly, confess is in the aorist tense.
Aorist is a punctiliar tense meaning “at a point in time”.**

**Since it is impossible for God to leave believers
this cannot be referring to the result of salvation.
It has to do with our everyday walk.**

**In other words, as we confess Jesus God the Father is abiding in us.
The two go together hand in hand.**

**In other words, at a point in time (as many points in time as possible),
when you confess that Jesus is the Son of God,
you can know the Father is abiding in you.**

**There is nothing too extreme here,
but there is an awful lot to be assured of!**

What have believers come to know and believe?

How does John describe God?

What is true of the one who abides in love?

1.

2.

How is love perfected?

Why is love perfected?

What is the day of judgment?

Who will judge?

What will He judge?

Why would we need confidence in the day of judgment?

What will we be confident about regarding the day of judgment (if love is perfected with us)?

What is true of us while we are in this world if we are Christians?

Does he need to fear the day of judgment?

Why not?

How does it affect us (regarding the day of judgment) that we are like Him while we are in the world (before the day of judgment)?

How are we like Him?

What does it mean that love is perfected with us (rather than in us)?

Is there any fear in love?

What casts out fear?



The Greek word for “perfect” is *teleios* and means to be complete, having come to an end.

Why does perfect love cast out fear?

What is true of the one who fears?

Why do we love?

What is true of someone who says that he loves God but hates his brother?

Why is he a liar? What is true?

Can the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen love God Whom he has not seen?

What is God’s commandment?

What is the one who loves God to do?

READ AND REASON

Either they do...
or they don't.

Either you confess Jesus has come in the flesh (say the same thing that God says about His Son)...
or you don't.

There is no in-between.

Someone who does *not* confess Jesus is *not* from God!
Even if someone says all sorts of other nice things...
he is *not* from God!

Can this mean that to confess Him requires a definite personal action on our own part,
while not confessing Him includes a much broader arena?
Yes, it does...

Does this mean "neutrality" actually belongs in the antichrist's corner?
Yes, it does...

Do you test spirits according to this test?

Ask God to open your eyes to behold wonderful things from His Word...
and then study as hard and as well as you can.

Chapter by Chapter

What is **1 John Chapter 4** mainly and plainly about?

Theme of 1 John Chapter 1

Theme of 1 John Chapter 2

Theme of 1 John Chapter 3

Theme of 1 John Chapter 4

1 JOHN - The LETTER

Chapter Five

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **1 John 5** and mark every reference to God the Father, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red triangle.

Read through **1 John 5** and mark every reference to God's Son, Jesus Christ, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cross.

Read through **1 John 5** and mark every reference to God's Holy Spirit, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cloud.

Read through **1 John 5** and mark every reference to truth, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red box filled in with yellow.

Read through **1 John 5** and highlight every reference to life, including pronouns and synonyms, with green.

Read through **1 John 5** and mark every reference to love with a red heart filled in with pink.

Read through **1 John 5** and mark every reference to sin, including pronouns and synonyms, with an orange "do-not" sign. I.e. an orange circle with a diagonal slash through it.

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Read through **1 John 5** and mark every time phrase with a blue box.

Read through **1 John 5** and mark every contrast with a bold pink diagonal slash.

Read through **1 John 5** and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. Those born of God
2. The testimony of God that Jesus is the Son of God
3. Confidence to know
4. Sin not leading to death
5. God keeps the one born of Him
6. True God and false idols

READ AND ANSWER

1 John 5:1-4

Who is born of God?

What is true of the one who believes that Jesus is the Christ?

Who loves the child born of God?

What is true of the one who loves the Father?

How do we know that we love the children of God?

- 1.
- 2.



This is pretty amazing...

1 John 5:2

***By this we know that we love the children of God,
when we love God and observe His commandments.***

**God says that I can know I love the children of God through these two criteria:
If I love God...
If I observe His commandments...**

**If you asked most people what it means to love the children of God,
I think only a few, if any, would answer according to this Word.**

John 12:48
***He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him;
the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.***

**Jesus is the Word.
We will be judged by what the Bible says—pure and simple.**

**Some think they are loving the children of God
because of their actions toward them.
God says we are loving the children of God
because of our actions toward Him.**

What is the love of God?

Are His commandments too difficult to keep?

What is true if we do not keep His commandments?

Who overcomes the world?

How will we, and do we, overcome the world?

What is our faith?

What will bring us victory to overcome the world?

1 John 5:5-12

Who is the one who overcomes the world?

What is the faith of the one who overcomes the world?

Who is Jesus, the Son of God?

1.

2.

Did Jesus come with water alone?

By what two things did Jesus come?

Who testifies that Jesus is the Son of God?

Why makes the Spirit such a reliable witness?

How many testify that Jesus is the Son of God?

Who and what are the three that testify that Jesus is the Son of God?

1.

2.

3.

What one thing do these three testify?

If we are willing to receive, or believe, the testimony of men, what should we be all the more willing to receive and believe?

Why?

What is the testimony of God?



**God has testified that He has testified concerning His Son.
Sounds like a double testimony, doesn't it?
That's because it is!**

And remember, it is God Who is doing the testifying!

**No one should disbelieve...
but they still do...**

**On the other hand...
those who do believe *know* it is true!**

What is true of the one who believes in the Son of God?

Where does the one who believes in the Son of God have the testimony of God concerning His Son?

What is true of the one who does not believe God?

If you do not believe God, what are you calling Him?

If you do not believe in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son, what have you declared God to be?

What is God's testimony?

1.

2.

Where is eternal life?

Who has offered eternal life?

To whom has God given eternal life?

How is eternal life obtained?

If you have God's Son, what do you possess?

If you do not have God's Son, what do you not possess?

1 John 5:13-15

To whom has John written?

Why has John written?

Who has eternal life?

Who are those who have confidence before God?

What confidence do we (those who believe in the Name of the Son of God and therefore, have eternal life) have before God?

How can we know that God hears our requests in prayer?

If we know that God hears us, what else do we know?

What is the criteria concerning requests?

Can your requests be your own desire or pleasure (will)?

Whose desire and pleasure (will) must they be?

If we meet God's criteria, what do we know?

Think through **verses 13-15** and list the criteria for knowing that God will hear your prayer.

1.

2.

Think through **verses 13-15** and list the criteria for knowing that God will answer your prayer.

1.

2.

3.

1 John 5:16-17

What is a Christian to do who sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death?

What will God do?

Who will God give life to?

Can this be talking about eternal life?

Why not?

Is this related at all to the previous verses which talk about making a request of God?

How?

Is there a sin which leads to death?

Does John tells us here what that sin is?

What life is being referred to?

Are Christians allowed to request God to spare death from the one who commits sin leading to death?



**Is it John's purpose to put an obscure doctrine in front of his listeners so that they would wonder what the sin leading to death is?
No. Of course not.**

**Is his point even concerning a sin that leads to death?
No.**

**Is his point that we should ask God to give life to the brother who commits a sin not leading to death?
Yes.**

**John says we *should ask* on behalf of a brother committing a sin not leading to death and God will give life to him.
John says he is *not saying we should ask* on behalf of a brother committing a sin leading to death.**

Can Christians know for sure which sin is a sin leading to death?

**Can we be sure which sins are the ones we *should ask* God to life give to a brother?
Then, do we need to worry?
Can we follow the clear command of God?
Yes. Absolutely.**

How is unrighteousness defined?

Which unrighteousness is sin?

Is there unrighteousness that does not lead to death even though it is sin?

1 John 5:18-19

What do we know?

Does one who is born of God sin as a way of life?

Why not?

1.

2.

Why doesn't the evil one touch the one who is born of God?

What lies in the power of the evil one?

What does not lie in the power of the evil one?

Why do Christians not lie in the power of the evil one?

1 John 5:20-21

What else do we know?

1.

2.

3.

What do we have?

Who gave us understanding so that we may know Him who is true?

In one word how is God described?

What is our relationship to God, Who is true?

How are we in God?

Through being in God's Son Jesus Christ, Who else are we "in"?

Who is true?

Who is Eternal Life?

How does John address his listeners?

In contrast to the true God and eternal life, what are John's listeners to guard themselves from?

Are Christians today to guard themselves from idols?

How does this last line connect to the previous verse?

What is being contrasted?

READ AND REASON

Many people think they can just ask God for whatever they want and He should give it to them.

Those same people believe that God is listening to everything they say no matter who they are and no matter what they do.

Are they right?

God does *not* promise He will listen to the prayers of just anybody. God *does* promise to listen to the prayers of those who are His.

God does *not* promise He will listen to the prayers of a believer who is praying contrary to God's will.

God *does* promise to listen to the prayers of a believer who is praying according to God's will.

God does *not* promise He will give anybody everything they want.

God does *not* promise He will give a believer everything he wants.

God *does* promise He will give a believer everything he requests that is according to God's will.

God will *not* be held to a promise He did not make.

God *will* keep each and every promise He has made.

Read these cross-references written by the same author, John, below. They shed even more light of God's requirements to answer prayer.

John 9:31

*We know that God does not hear sinners;
but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him.*

God does not hear sinners.

God hears those who fear Him and do His will.

John 14:13–14

*Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do,
so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.*

The context of this passage shows the “you” are believers in the Name of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Whatever is asked must be in accordance with Who Jesus is—His Name.

John 15:7

*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you,
ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.*

You must abide in Christ.

Christ's words must abide in you.

If you abide in Him and His words in you,

whatever you wish will be according to His desire, pleasure, and will.

John 16:23–24

In that day you will not question Me about anything.

*Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name,
He will give it to you.*

*Until now you have asked for nothing in My name;
ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.*

You must ask according to Jesus' Name, Who He is.

Who is He?

He is the exact representation and radiance of His Glory!

Whatever is asked according to Jesus' Name will be according to the Father's will.

1 John 3:21–22

*Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;
and whatever we ask we receive from Him,
because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.*

We must keep His commandments.

We must do the things that are pleasing in His sight.

We will only ask the things that are pleasing in His sight to receive what we ask.

So, what have we seen?

God must hear a prayer before He will answer it.

In order for Him to hear your prayer you must be a righteous believer.

In order for Him to hear your prayer it must be according to His will.

If all His requirements are met, then and only then,
does He promise to answer your prayer.

Do God's criteria make Him somehow less than "good"?

No. Not at all.

His standards show His perfectly just and holy righteousness.

Chapter by Chapter

What is **1 John Chapter 5** mainly and plainly about?

Theme of 1 John Chapter 1

Theme of 1 John Chapter 2

Theme of 1 John Chapter 3

Theme of 1 John Chapter 4

Theme of 1 John Chapter 5
