



Most of us are familiar with Romans 8:28, quoted above, although our interpretation may not all be the same. When we look at the long-running pandemic and its effects and consequences, we struggle to find any resemblance of good.

The reason for so much angst, sadness and unhappiness, even among Christians, is that we view the world and the events of our lives with a secular perspective.

Instead, we should remind ourselves of Proverbs 3:5-6 in which we are instructed to *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And don't lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, And he will direct your paths."*

1. Trust in the Lord

When we face crisis and challenges, the first thing we need to do is to put our trust in the Lord. I love what Moses told the Hebrews in Exodus 14:13, *"Don't be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord"* when the people were trembling in fear of the pursuing Egyptian army.

We are to trust the Lord with *"all our hearts"*. When we exercise such faith, we begin to look at the situation from God's perspective. Indeed, according to Proverbs 16:4, *"the Lord has made everything for its own purpose"*.

2. Not on our Understanding

Proverbs 3:5-6 goes on to tell us, *"don't lean on your own understanding"*. When we look at what is happening, based on our thinking and

experiences, we do not have sufficient wisdom to judge correctly. This is how the world is, and the cause of trouble between nations, races, families and individuals.

Whatever occupies your minds, is brewing in your hearts... take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. He will direct your paths

When we trust the Lord, and acknowledge that He is in control, having made all things for His own purpose, He will direct our paths.

Let God be God and accept His sovereignty. Whether it is clear to you, trust Him because He is in charge. We have a great role model in Job 1:21 when Job said, *"Naked I came out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."*

How are you doing during the pandemic? For the Household of Faith, we were on track in our growth but the pandemic has moved us out of the YMCA and put a stop to our Bible class, Care teams, worships and fellowships. But God has made the church stronger, provided uninterrupted worship and has plans for our future - *"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"* - Jeremiah 29:11.



Chen Sunny 11
Dhanabalan Ramesh 15
Lai Aunty 20

Cheang Andy 21
Kong Lay 24
Goh Jovan 25

Exodus 17: 8-16

⁸ The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim. ⁹ Moses said to Joshua, "Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands." ¹⁰ So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. ¹¹ As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. ¹² When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. ¹³ So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.

Exodus 17: 8-16

¹⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this on a scroll as something to be remembered and make sure that Joshua hears it, because I will completely blot out the name of Amalek from under heaven." ¹⁵ Moses built an altar and called it **The LORD is my Banner**. ¹⁶ He said, "Because hands were lifted up against the throne of the LORD, the LORD will be at war against the Amalekites from generation to generation."

Background

- Chapter** ^{1st} part The Song of Moses in which they celebrated God's deliverance from the Egyptians' pursuit.
- 15** ^{2nd} part Then they came to a place called Marah, where there was water. But they could not drink it because it was too bitter. ²⁴ The people grumbled to Moses.
- 16** From there they journeyed to the wilderness of Sin where they murmured against Moses because there was no food, and where they longed for the fleshpots of Egypt. There, Jehovah appeared in the cloud of glory and began to feed them with the wilderness manna.
- 17** Then they came to Rephidim where there was no water. They quarrelled with Moses.

Who Were The Amalekites?

A formidable tribe of nomads

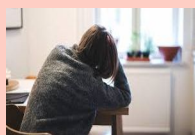
- living near the land of Canaan (the desert between Egypt and Canaan)
- the first nation to attack the Jewish people after the Exodus from Egypt
- can be considered as representative of all evil forces opposed to God's people throughout all the ages.



Under Attack (Over & Over Again!)

Discouraged? Defeated? Depressed?

Tired? (Physical & Spiritual)



Overdependent?
Overconfident?

Dissatisfied? Quarrelsome?

Forgetfulness?



"I lift up my eyes to the mountains — where does my help come from? ² My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth."

Psalms 121: 1-2

Conquering Our 'Amalekites'

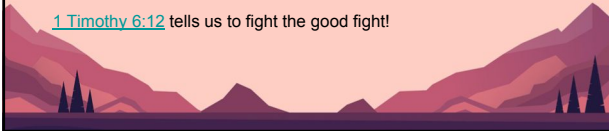
WE NEED TO FIGHT

[Exodus 17:9](#) Moses said to Joshua, "Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites..."

[Ephesians 6](#) tells us to put on the full armor of God and stand fast against the devil.

[Colossians 3](#) tells us to put to death what is earthly in us.

[1 Timothy 6:12](#) tells us to fight the good fight!



Conquering Our 'Amalekites'

WE NEED ONE ANOTHER

"Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands."

¹¹ As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. ¹² When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. ¹³ So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.



Conquering Our 'Amalekites'

WE NEED GOD



"Banner" is a military term - it's the signal pole around which the army can be gathered and regrouped.

The army gets the marching instructions to advance or retreat.

When we raise up the banner, we are saying, "We rally to God. He fights for us."





I want to thank all members who have shared with me your views on the future of the Household of Faith. Most are in favour of pursuing registration as it will allow us to rent premises for worship. It looks like the current infections have yet to peak and that the restrictions will be with us for the indefinite future.

I have discussed our intention to register the church with our lawyers in early June. Last month, I updated them on the feedback of our members as we explored the registration options.

We are approaching this cautiously, reviewing the options and getting feedback from as many as possible. We will keep our members informed of the progress.

New Membership List

One of the first things we have to do is to update our membership roster.

New Bank Account

After registration, the office bearers will set up a new bank account in the officially registered name, Household of Faith, Singapore. Monthly statement of accounts will be posted on a new Facebook group as a fresh start.

However, the existing Facebook group, Household of Faith, Supporters and Friends will remain unchanged. Also, our website - www.hofsg.com will continue unchanged.

First Order of Business

Our immediate need is to find large enough

premises for long-term rental. This will allow all who are willing, to be present for in-person worship. This is our top priority.

When this is secured, we will decide on other matters as follows:

1. Should we continue live streaming? We can decide to continue, cease or just stop until all our members return to worship.

2. Also, it will be a good time to decide if we want to continue meeting in the evening. We have been doing well as an evening church so far.

3. If the restrictions continue to be lifted, we should be thinking of reviving our Care teams, perhaps on another time or day away from our Sunday evening slot.

What do You think?

I am interested to hear the views of all members. Please share with me on Sundays or text me. These are important issues, and I would like to hear from every stakeholder.

Henry Kong,
Minister



Fidelity is published weekly by the Household of Faith, Singapore, currently live streaming every Sunday at 6pm at <https://tinyurl.com/HOFstream>. Check our website - www.hofsg.com for the latest updates. Postal address: Pasir Panjang P.O. Box 27, Singapore 911121. Website: hofsg.com. For more details, contact the minister, Henry Kong at henry.kong@yahoo.com. Mobile: +65 9326 0669. Scan QR Code to go to our website.

Introduction to 1 John

Gem of a book

Not too long – easy to memorize

Very Practical

Also devotional

Writer of the Epistle

The apostle John

John writes the most

Paul – Luke – John - Matthew

The Inner Circle:
Peter, James & John

Pillar of Early Church:
Peter, James (Jesus' brother) and John

Recipients of the Epistle

Not addressed to any person, church or community

John ministered in Ephesus

General epistle to Christians throughout Asia Minor

1 John 2:20 *You have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know the truth.*

John was addressing a specific group of Christians who possessed certain spiritual gifts.



Introduction
Writer
Recipients

Purposes of the Epistle

1. To clarify - 1 John 2:26: *These things I have written to you concerning those who would lead you astray.*

1 John 4:1-6 *Beloved, don't believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit who confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit who doesn't confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God, and this is the spirit of the antichrist, of whom you have heard that it comes. Now it is in the world already... By this we know the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.*

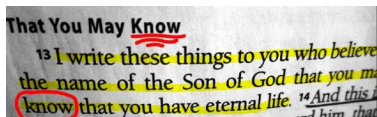


Introduction
Writer
Recipients

Purposes of the Epistle

2. Assure Christians that they have eternal life

1 John 5:13 *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*





Introduction
Writer
Recipients
Purposes

Theme of the Epistle

Eternal life is in Jesus Christ, who has come in the flesh

1 John 1:4 *And we write these things to you, that our joy may be fulfilled.*

1 John 2:1 *My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not sin. If anyone sins, we have a Counselor with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous.*

1 John 5:13 *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*

[illegible]



15th August 2021

Outline of 1 John

From Executable Outlines

<https://executableoutlines.com> by Mark Copeland



This week we start on a 2-month exposition of 1 John. The lessons are based on an outline from one of the popular brotherhood sites, executable outlines. I encourage all readers to go to the website provided above to explore a treasurehouse of Biblical materials, you can use in personal study, family lessons or just pursue the topic you are interested in!

Prologue: The Word of Life (1:1-4)

Live in confidence (3:19-24)

Test the spirits (4:1-6)

1. God Is Light (1:5-3:10)

Walk in the Light (1:5-2:2)

God is Light (1:5-7)

Resist sin (1:8-2:2)

Love one another: part II (4:7-21)

Love others because God loves you
(4:7-10)

Love others because God lives in you
(4:11-21)

Obey the command to love
(2:3-11)

Know God and keep His commands
(2:3-6)

Learn the new command and love
others (2:7-11)

Obey God and experience the victory
of faith (5:1-5)

Believe in the Son and enjoy eternal life
(5:6-12)

Know your spiritual status (2:12-14)

Be warned of enemies of the faith
(2:15-27)

Beware of the world (2:15-17)

Beware of the antichrists (2:18-27)

Live like children of God (2:28-3:10)

Be confident and ready for His coming
(2:28-3:3)

Be righteous and do not sin
(3:4-10)

3. God is Life (5:13-21)

Confidence and Characteristics of the
Child of God (5:13-21)

Know you have eternal life (5:13)

Be confident in prayer (5:14-17)

Do not continue in sin (5:18-20)

Keep yourself from idols (5:21)

2. God Is Love (3:11-5:12)

Love one another: part I (3:11-24)

Love in action (3:11-18)


That You May Know
¹³ I write these things to you who believe
the name of the Son of God that you may
know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴ And this is



Fidelity is published weekly by the Household of Faith, Singapore, currently live streaming every Sunday at 6pm at <https://tinyurl.com/HOFstream>. Check our website - www.hofsg.com for the latest updates. Postal address: Pasir Panjang P.O. Box 27, Singapore 911121. Website: hofsg.com. For more details, contact the minister, Henry Kong at henry.kong@yahoo.com. Mobile: +65 9326 0669. Scan QR Code to go to our website.








Chapter One


Prologue: The Word of Life (1 John 1:1-4)

1. God Is Light (1 John 1:5 - 3:10)

Walk in the Light (1 John 1:5 - 2:2)

Resist sin (1 John 1:8 - 2:2)






Chapter One
Prologue:
The Word of Life

Prologue: The Word of Life

1 John 1:1-4 *That which was from the beginning, that which we have heard, that which we have seen with our eyes, that which we saw, and our hands touched, concerning the Word of life (and the life was revealed, and we have seen, and testify, and declare to you the life, the eternal life, which was with the Father, and was revealed to us); that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us.*

Yes, and our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son, Jesus Christ. And we write these things to you, that our joy may be fulfilled.





Chapter One
Prologue:
The Word of Life

God Is Light

God is Light (1 John 1:5)

1 John 1:5: *This is the message which we have heard from him and announce to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.*





Chapter One
Prologue:
The Word of Life
1 God is Light

God Is Light

Walk in the Light (1 John 1: 6-7)

1 John 1:6-7 *If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and don't tell the truth.*

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.



Chapter One
Prologue:
The Word of Life
1 God is Light
Walk in the Light

God Is Light

Resist Sin (1 John 1: 8-10)

1 John 1:8-10 *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us the sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

If we say that we haven't sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

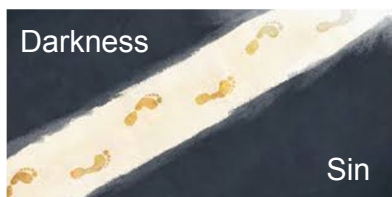


Chapter One
Prologue:
The Word of Life
1 God is Light
Walk in the Light
Resist Sin

Conclusion

What is your view of God?

How is your walk each day?





Chapter One
Prologue:
The Word of Life
1 God is Light
Walk in the Light
Resist Sin

Conclusion

What is your view of God?

How is your walk each day?





Fidelity

Let's do what is good toward all men, and especially toward those who are of the household of the faith - Galatians 6:10

22nd August 2021


Helpful Charts (1/2) on Epistle of 1 John



Chart
1/2



Fidelity is published weekly by the Household of Faith, Singapore, currently live streaming every Sunday at 6pm at <https://tinyurl.com/HOFstream>. Check our website - www.hofsg.com for the latest updates. Postal address: Pasir Panjang P.O. Box 27, Singapore 911121. Website: hofsg.com. For more details, contact the minister, Henry Kong at henry.kong@yahoo.com. Mobile: +65 9326 0669. Scan QR Code to go to our website.



Chapter Two

Chapter Two

Resist sin (1 John 1:8 - 2:2) and obey the command to love (2: 3-11)


Know God and keep His commands (2: 3-6)
Learn the new command and love others (2: 7-11)

Know your spiritual status (2: 12-14)

Be warned of enemies of the faith (2: 15-27)

Beware of the world (2: 15-17) and the antichrists (2: 18-27)

Live like children of God (2:28 - 3:10) and be confident and ready for His coming (2:28 - 3:3)



Chapter Two


Sin and Commandment

Romans 7:8-25
But sin, finding occasion through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of coveting.

For apart from the law, sin is dead. I was alive apart from the law once, but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

The commandment, which was for life, this I found to be for death; for sin, finding occasion through the commandment, deceived me, and through it killed me.

Therefore the law indeed is holy, and the commandment holy, and righteous, and good.




Chapter Two

Sin and Commandment

Did then that which is good become death to me? May it never be! But sin, that it might be shown to be sin, by working death to me through that which is good; that through the commandment sin might become exceeding sinful.

For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am fleshly, sold under sin. For I don't know what I am doing. For I don't practice what I desire to do; but what I hate, that I do. But if what I don't desire, that I do, I consent to the law that it is good. So now it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me.

For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing.



Chapter Two


Sin and Commandment

For desire is present with me, but I don't find it doing that which is good. For the good which I desire, I don't do; but the evil which I don't desire, that I practice.

But if what I don't desire, that I do, it is no more I that do it, but sin which dwells in me.

I find then the law, that, to me, while I desire to do good, evil is present. For I delight in God's law after the inward man, but I see a different law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity under the law of sin which is in my members.

What a wretched man I am! Who will deliver me out of the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ, our Lord! So then with the mind, I myself serve God's law, but with the flesh, the sin's law.



Chapter Two


Sin and Commandment

Resist sin

1 John 1:8-2:2: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us the sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

If we say that we haven't sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not sin. If anyone sins, we have a Counselor with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous. And he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.



Chapter Two

Sin and Commands


Keep His Commands

Obey the command (1 John 2: 3-11)

Just one; but the most important

1 John 2:3-11 This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his commandments. One who says, "I know him," and doesn't keep his commandments, is a liar, and the truth isn't in him.

But whoever keeps his word, God's love has most assuredly been perfected in him. This is how we know that we are in him: he who says he remains in him ought himself also to walk just like he walked.



Chapter Two


Sin and Commands

Keep His Commands

Brothers, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.

Again, I write a new commandment to you, which is true in him and in you; because the darkness is passing away, and the true light already shines. He who says he is in the light and hates his brother, is in the darkness even until now.

He who loves his brother remains in the light, and there is no occasion for stumbling in him. But he who hates his brother is in the darkness, and walks in the darkness, and doesn't know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.



Chapter Two

Sin and Commands

Keep His Commands

Your Spiritual Status


Know your spiritual status

1 John 2: 12-14 I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one.

I write to you, little children, because you know the Father. I have written to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one.



Chapter Two

Sin and Commands

Keep His Commands

Your Spiritual Status

I write to you, little children, because you know the Father.

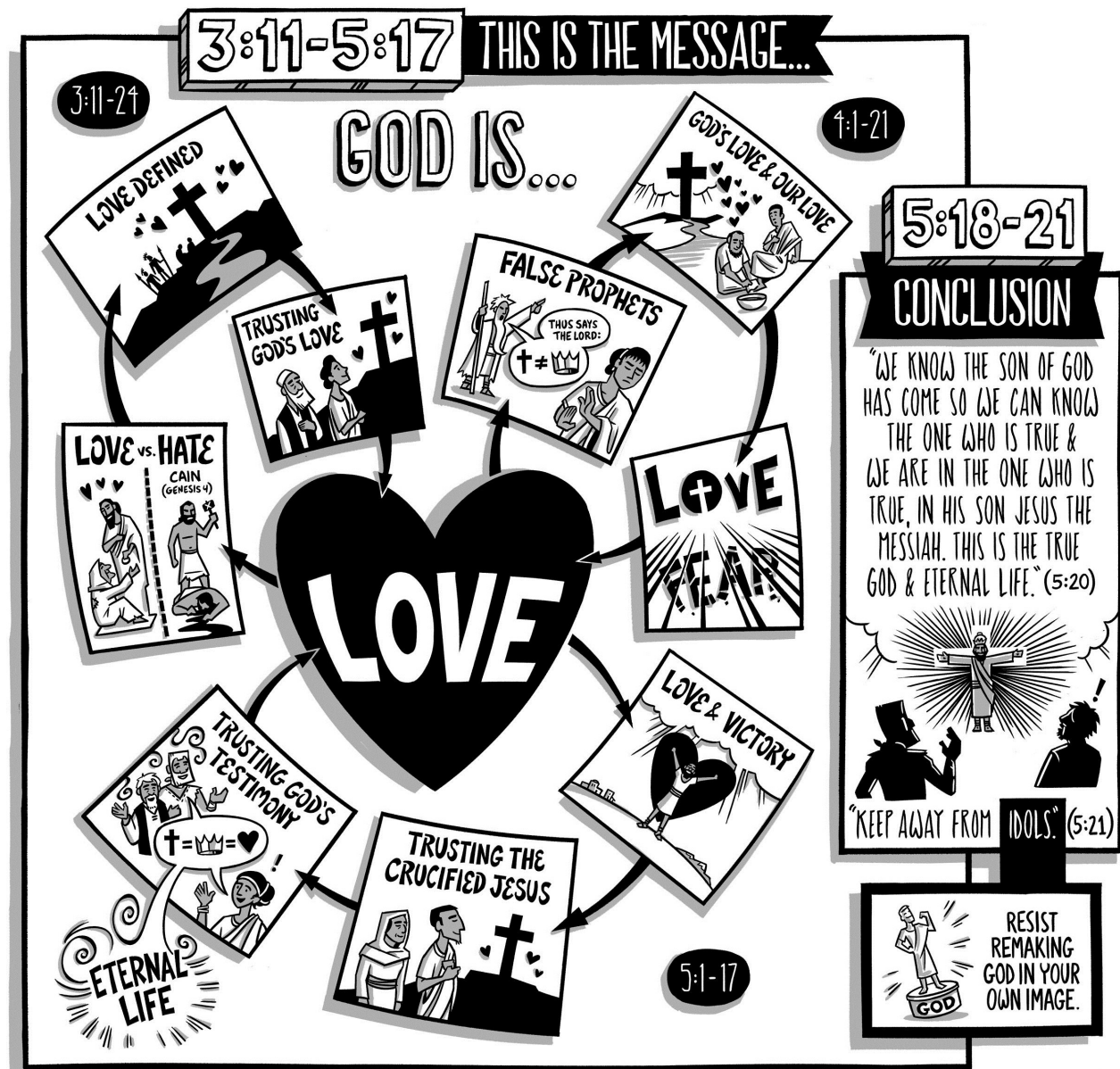
I have written to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning.

I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one.



29th August 2021

Helpful Charts (2/2) on Epistle of 1 John




Taken from www.bibleproject.com



Fidelity is published weekly by the Household of Faith, Singapore, currently live streaming every Sunday at 6pm at <https://tinyurl.com/HOFstream>. Check our website - www.hofsg.com for the latest updates. Postal address: Pasir Panjang P.O. Box 27, Singapore 911121. Website: hofsg.com. For more details, contact the minister, Henry Kong at henry.kong@yahoo.com. Mobile: +65 9326 0669. Scan QR Code to go to our website.







Chapter Two

Resist sin (1John 1:8-2:2) and obey the command to love (1John 2:3-11)

Know God and keep His commands (1John 2:3-6) and learn the new command and love others (1John 2:7-11)

Know your spiritual status (1John 2:12-14)





Chapter Two

Resist sin (1John 1:8-2:2) and obey the command to love (1John 2:3-11)


Know God and keep His commands (1John 2:3-6) and learn the new command and love others (1John 2:7-11)

Know your spiritual status (1John 2:12-14)

Be warned of enemies of the faith (1John 2:15-27)

Beware of the world (1John 2:15-17) and the antichrists (1John 2:18-27)

Live like children of God (1John 2:28-3:10) and be confident and ready for His coming (1John 2:28-3:3)



chapter Two

Enemies of Faith


Be warned of enemies of the faith

1 John 2:15-17 Don't love the world, neither the things that are in the world.

If anyone loves the world, the Father's love isn't in him.

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, isn't the Father's, but is the world's.

The world is passing away with its lusts, but he who does God's will remains forever.




Chapter 2

Enemies of Faith

The temptation of Christ the last Adam was paralleled to that of Adam and Eve (Heb. 4:15; Luke 4:1-13).

1. Christ was tempted in the realm of the body—the lust of the flesh (Luke 4:3-4).
2. Christ was tempted in the realm of the soul—the lust of the eyes (Luke 4:5-8).
3. Christ was tempted in the realm of the spirit—the pride of life (Luke 4:9-13).



Chapter 2
Enemies of Faith

The Antichrists

Beware the antichrists

1 John 2:18-27 Little children, these are the end times, and as you heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen. By this we know that it is the end times.

They went out from us, but they didn't belong to us; for if they had belonged to us, they would have continued with us. But they left, that they might be revealed that none of them belong to us.

You have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know the truth. I have not written to you because you don't know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.



Chapter 2
Enemies of Faith

The Antichrists

Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the Antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.

Whoever denies the Son, the same doesn't have the Father. He who confesses the Son has the Father also. Therefore, as for you, let that remain in you which you heard from the beginning. If that which you heard from the beginning remains in you, you also will remain in the Son, and in the Father.

This is the promise which he promised us, the eternal life. These things I have written to you concerning those who would lead you astray. As for you, the anointing which you received from him remains in you, and you don't need for anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is no lie, and even as it taught you, you will remain in him.



Chapter 2
Enemies of Faith
The Antichrists

Children of God

Live like children of God (1John 2:28-3:10)

1 John 2:28-29 Now, little children, remain in him, that when he appears, we may have boldness, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of him.



Chapter 2
Enemies of Faith
The Antichrists

Children of God

1 John 3:1-3 Behold, how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

For this cause the world doesn't know us, because it didn't know him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it is not yet revealed what we will be.

But we know that, when he is revealed, we will be like him; for we will see him just as he is.

Everyone who has this hope set on him purifies himself, even as he is pure.
