1 John

1 What was from the beginning, what we have
heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what
we looked upon and our hands touched,
concerning the Word of life—
2 and the life was revealed, and we have seen
it and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life
that was with the Father and was revealed to
us—
3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim
also to you, so that you too may have fellowship
with us. And indeed our fellowship is with the
Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
4 And we are writing these things so that our
joy may be complete.

5 This is the message we have heard from him
and announce to you: God is light, and in him
there is no darkness at all.
6 If we say that we have fellowship with him
while walking in darkness, we lie and do not
practice the truth.
7 But if we walk in the light as he is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another, and the
blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive
ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just
to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make
him a liar, and his word is not in us.

2

1 My little children, I write these things to you
so that you may not sin. But if anyone sins, we
have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ
the righteous.
2 And he himself is the atoning sacrifice for
our sins, and not for ours alone but also for the
sins of the whole world.
3 And by this we know that we have come to
know him, if we keep his commandments.
4 Whoever says, “I have come to know him,”
but does not keep his commandments is a liar,
and the truth is not in him.
5 But in the one who keeps his word, the love
of God has truly been made complete. By this
we know that we are in him:
6 whoever says he remains in him ought
himself to walk as he walked.
7 Beloved, I am not writing you a new
commandment, but an old commandment that
you have had from the beginning. The old
commandment is the word you heard.
8 Yet I am writing you a new commandment,
which is true in him and in you, because the
darkness is passing away and the true light is
already shining.
9 Whoever says he is in the light and hates his
brother is still in darkness.
10 Whoever loves his brother remains in the
light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

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

12 I write to you, little children, because your
sins have been forgiven for his name's
sake.
13 I write to you, fathers, because you have
known the one who is from the beginning.
I write to you, young men, because you have
overcome the evil one.
14 I have written to you, children, because you
have known the Father.
I have written to you, fathers, because you
have known the one 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.
15 Do not love the world or the things in the
world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the
Father is not in him.
16 For all that is in the world—the desire of the
flesh, the desire of the eyes, and pride in
possessions—is not from the Father but is from
the world.
17 And the world is passing away, and its
desire, but whoever does the will of God
remains forever.
18 Children, it is the last hour, and as you
heard that antichrist is coming, even now many
antichrists have arisen. From this we know that
it is the last hour.

19 They went out from us, but they were not of
us, for if they had been of us, they would have
remained with us. But they went out so that it
might be made plain that they are not all of us.
20 And you have an anointing from the Holy
One, and you all have knowledge.
21 I have not written to you because you do
not know the truth, but because you know it,
and because no lie is from the truth.
22 Who is the liar but the one who denies that
Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one
who denies the Father and the Son.
23 Everyone who denies the Son does not have
the Father either. Whoever confesses the Son
has the Father also.
24 As for you, let what you heard from the
beginning remain in you. If what you heard
from the beginning remains in you, you too will
remain in the Son and in the Father.
25 And this is the promise he himself promised
us: eternal life.
26 I have written these things to you about
those who deceive you.
27 As for you, the anointing you received from
him remains in you, and you have no need for
anyone to teach you. But as his anointing
teaches you about all things, and is true and is
not a lie, and just as it taught you, remain in him.
28 And now, little children, remain in him, so
that when he is revealed we may have
confidence and not shrink from him in shame at
his coming.
29 If you know that he is righteous, know that
everyone who practices righteousness has been

born of him.

3

1 See what kind of love the Father has given
us, that we should be called children of God!
And we are. For this reason the world does not
know us, because it did not know him.
2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and
what we will be has not yet been revealed. We
know that when he is revealed we will be like
him, because we will see him as he is.
3 And everyone who has this hope set on him
purifies himself, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who practices sin also practices
lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.
5 And you know that he was revealed to take
away sins, and in him there is no sin.
6 Everyone who remains in him does not sin.
Everyone who sins has neither seen him nor
known him.
7 Little children, let no one deceive you. The
one who practices righteousness is righteous,
just as he is righteous.
8 The one who practices sin is of the devil,
because the devil has been sinning from the
beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was
revealed: to destroy the works of the devil.
9 Everyone who has been born of God does not
practice sin, because God's seed remains in him;
and he cannot sin, because he has been born of
God.
10 By this the children of God and the children
of the devil are evident: everyone who does not

practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

11 For this is the message you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,
12 not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his deeds were evil, but his brother's were righteous.
13 Do not be surprised, brothers and sisters, if the world hates you.
14 We know that we have passed from death to life because we love the brothers and sisters. Whoever does not love remains in death.
15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him.
16 By this we have come to know love: he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters.
17 But if anyone has this world's goods, sees his brother in need, and closes his heart to him, how does the love of God remain in him?

18 Little children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth.
19 By this we will know that we are of the truth, and will reassure our heart before him,
20 because if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart and knows all things.
21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God,
22 and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what is pleasing in his sight.

23 And this is his commandment, that we
believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and
love one another, just as he commanded us.
24 Whoever keeps his commandments remains
in him, and he in that person. And by this we
know that he remains in us, by the Spirit whom
he gave us.

4

1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test
the spirits to see whether they are from God,
because many false prophets have gone out into
the world.
2 By this you recognize the Spirit of God: every
spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come
in the flesh is from God,
3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is
not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist,
which you have heard is coming, and now it is
already in the world.
4 You are from God, little children, and have
overcome them, because he who is in you is
greater than he who is in the world.
5 They are from the world; therefore they
speak from the world, and the world listens to
them.
6 We are from God. Whoever knows God
listens to us; whoever is not from God does not
listen to us. By this we recognize the Spirit of
truth and the spirit of error.

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because
love is from God, and everyone who loves has
been born of God and knows God.

8 Whoever does not love has not known God,
because God is love.
9 By this the love of God was revealed among
us: God has sent his only Son into the world so
that we might live through him.
10 In this is love, not that we have loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son as the
atoning sacrifice for our sins.
11 Beloved, if God loved us in this way, we too
ought to love one another.
12 No one has ever seen God. If we love one
another, God remains in us, and his love has
been made complete in us.
13 By this we know that we remain in him and
he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.
14 And we have seen and testify that the
Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.
15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of
God, God remains in him, and he in God.
16 And we have come to know and believe the
love God has for us. God is love, and whoever
remains in love remains in God, and God
remains in him.
17 By this, love has been made complete
among us, so that we may have confidence on
the day of judgment, because as he is, so also are
we in this world.
18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love
casts out fear, because fear involves
punishment, and whoever fears has not been
made perfect in love.
19 We love because he first loved us.
20 If anyone says, “I love God,” but hates his
brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love

his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.
21 And this commandment we have from him, that whoever loves God must also love his brother.

5

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father also loves the one born of him.
2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and carry out his commandments.
3 For this is love for God, that we keep his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome,
4 because whatever has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world: our faith.
5 And who is the one who overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
6 This is the one who came through water and blood, Jesus Christ—not with the water alone but with the water and with the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.
7 For there are three who testify:
8 the Spirit, the water, and the blood, and the three are in agreement.
9 If we receive human testimony, God's testimony is greater, for this is God's testimony, that he has testified about his Son.
10 Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe

God has made him a liar, because he has not
believed the testimony God has given about his
Son.
11 And this is the testimony, that God gave us
eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does
not have the Son of God does not have life.
13 I have written these things to you who
believe in the name of the Son of God, so that
you may know that you have eternal life.
14 And this is the confidence we have before
him, that if we ask anything according to his
will, he hears us.
15 And if we know that he hears us whatever
we ask, we know that we have what we have
asked of him.
16 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin
not leading to death, he will ask, and God will
give him life—to those who commit sin not
leading to death. There is sin leading to death; I
do not say that he should ask about that.
17 All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin
not leading to death.
18 We know that everyone who has been born
of God does not sin, but the one who was born of
God protects him, and the evil one does not
touch him.
19 We know that we are of God, and the whole
world lies in the power of the evil one.
20 And we know that the Son of God has come
and has given us understanding so that we may
know the one who is true. And we are in the one
who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the
true God and eternal life.
21 Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

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