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1 John 2

Jesus is Our Advocate

1My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of the whole world.*

John calls us “little children”. John when writing this was well advanced in age and had suffered mightily at the hands of the Roman Empire. He had been imprisoned, beaten repeatedly, burned with oil, and left for dead, and finally abandoned on the Isle of Patmos. He was able to before his death to minister to many young and seasoned believers. He calls us “little children”, meaning young and innocent spiritual children.

His first admonition is for us not to sin at all. That is the condition we all want to be in. But we know from Scripture that we are unable to be perfect until we receive our “resurrected bodies” and sin has been judged. Our job is to constantly walk toward and in the righteousness of Jesus the Messiah.

1 John 1:10If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

The premise of John's idea of not sinning but knowing that sinful human life has someone who stands between us and a Holy God, our advocate our redeemer Jesus Christ. In God's domain, sin requires punishment.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus died on the cross for one simple reason; to save us from the wages the payment that is due to us for our sins. The world rejects how simple it is to be saved; as JD Farag says, it is as simple as ABC.

1. **A**dmitting we are sinners and have fallen short of the Glory of God.

Romans 3: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

2. **B**elieve on the Lord Jesus Christ

Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

3. **C**onfess our sins and with your mouth confess that Jesus is Lord.

Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

3And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

John 14:21 21 ^aHe that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and ^ohe that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

We know that we are not capable nor allowed to judge others but here John gives us a simple test as how we are doing in this relationship with Christ. The test is simple in its words but challenging in our daily walk.

Q. We know that we know Him by what measure?

Keeping His Commandments.

The other reality for Believers in knowing that they know Jesus as Lord and Savior is in our hearts, when we asked Christ into our hearts, we knew in our heart that something changed, things that enticed us before no longer have a hold on us. The longer we walked in obedience the more things fell away from us that had earlier plagued us. So, the more we walk in Faith and Obedience to Jesus Commandments, the more we reflect who He is in our lives and who He wants to be in the lives of those around us.

Our failures to walking in Obedience and Love are on us and will be summoned for a response at the Bema Seat Judgement of

Christ. Just like our successes in Love and Obedience will be rewarded at that same Judgement Seat of Christ.

4He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. 6He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

Just to be clear what we are talking about here is knowing that we are in Jesus. Being in Jesus is being Born Again, saved by the Blood of the Lamb.

John is describing a way we can know that we are saved. When we are saved, we should have transferred our rights to our lives and living them the way we want, to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Master. We then became slaves to Christ as our Master and Lord. The slave has no option but to carry out the will of his or her master. To be obedient to that master. Our walk is the outward sign of the inward commitment to our Master.

The moment you asked Christ into your heart you were saved by the Faith in doing that through God's Grace.

We believed that the Blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ's blood on the cross covered and removed our sins, and we were saved.

Psalms 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.

That was step 1. Now for Step 2, not of salvation but for obedience, our walk on this earth. John is saying that this walking in obedience to your master is a sign of belonging to Him. The simple test to see if we are walking in obedience is to judge ourselves in the light of Jesus's commandments.

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

God tells us that we are all slaves to something, either to Jesus or to Satan which includes our own will. We can't serve both:

Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

I hope I am not causing any confusion between being saved and walking in obedience. There is no work we can do to be saved. There is a lot of work we can do to show we are saved. Walking is not just physical functionality; it is also what is in our heart that comes out of our mouths. God wants us to love one another. What do we demonstrate in our daily lives; gossip, murmuring and complaining? Jesus would tell us not to let that be so.

Jude 1: [17](#)But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus

Christ; [16](#)These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage. [17](#)But, beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; [18](#)How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. [19](#)These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit. [20](#)But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, [21](#)Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. [22](#)And of some have compassion, making a difference: [23](#)And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

There was a song written in the 1960's that reflects what our image should be to the world.

*"We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit
We are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored*

*And they'll know we are Christians
By our love, By our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love*

*We will walk with each other
We will walk hand in hand
We will walk with each other
We will walk hand in hand
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our land*

And they'll know we are Christians

*By our love, By our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians
By our love”*

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1 Corinthians 6:17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

People will know we are Christians in one of two ways, but these two ways must be in total unison, or we are not operating in the Spirit but in the flesh. The two ways are 1. What we say. 2. What we do.

James 2:14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

John 13: 15 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

A New Command

7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

The “old commandment” John is referring to is from Leviticus and part of the 10 Commandments. The reference is from the

“beginning” is referencing to the beginning of the Law, give to Moses on the Mt. Sinai.

Leviticus 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

The word “old” can mean either “antient” or “well used, worn out”.

In this case I side with commentators that understand the meaning to be “ancient”. God’s Laws never wear out especially the 10 Commandments which are as valid today as they day they were written. Much of the World’s laws are based on these 10 Commandments, so they are alive and well.

8Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

Here lies the difference, Jesus is the Light unto the World. The world was in darkness until the Messiah came, He brought Light into the world. The “Light” is the “Truth” and both are Christ and in Christ Jesus. John is pointing out that to belong to Christ then we have no other option than to walk in the “Light” that He emanates. The darkness the world was in, the darkness that you and I were in are now in the past we can see the Light and now need to walk in the Light, Christ Jesus.

9He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. 10He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

John is again going to draw out those who claim to “know” the Light but continue to walk in “darkness”.

We looked at this word “darkness” before from Strong’s Concordance Word Helps

“HELPS Word-studies

Cognate: 4653 *skotía (a feminine noun) – darkness, a brand of moral, spiritual obscurity (i.e. which blocks the light of God when faith is lacking). See also [4655](#) /skótos (“darkness”).”*

John is equating hating with darkness. Darkness as this word is defined means “spiritual and or moral obscurity” (another word for obscurity it DOUBT) it happens when faith is lacking. As we know words are easy to speak but sometimes hard to walk out. There are people that are well versed in the Bible but are lacking Faith, doubt holds back their commitment. A darkness encompasses them; they can say the words but cannot walk in Faith, the steps God has placed before them. That evidence will become more obvious when faced with trials that test their Faith.

11But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

John simply uses an issue that is familiar to all of us. There are people we just don't seem to click with. There are people that we rub the wrong way, and they may even be brothers and sisters in the Lord, or in the flesh as it were, and John is declaring that if that is the case then that is the flesh. It is here that Faith must demonstrate and compel the flesh to comply, we are to "love one another"

John 13:34A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. 35By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

If we go back to Leviticus and examine the word "love" in the commandment to "Love thy neighbor as thy self" the word according to Strong's is:

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance

"beloved like, friend"

Jesus is giving us a new type of love that He commands we use towards our brothers and sisters in Him; Agape

Strong's Concordance again Word Helps

"HELPS Word-studies"

Cognate: 25 agapáō – properly, to prefer, to love; for the believer, preferring to "live through Christ" (1 Jn 4:9,10), i.e. embracing God's will (choosing His choices) and obeying them through His power. [25](#) (agapáō) preeminently refers to what God prefers as He "is love" (1 Jn 4:8,16). [See 26](#) (agapē).

With the believer, [25](#) /agapáō ("to love") means actively doing what the Lord prefers, with Him (by His power and direction). True [25](#) /agapáō ("loving") is always defined by God – a "discriminating affection which involves choice and selection" (WS, 477). 1 Jn 4:8,16,17 for example convey how loving ("preferring," [25](#) /agapáō) is Christ living His life through the believer."

So, this love is a Godly Love that cannot be generated from the flesh, the flesh can be conditioned to abide and to walk in this love but cannot be the generator of it. It is from God through His Son Jesus Christ.

[12](#)I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

The declaration of HOPE that the World needed before it was made available and now that it is available. John uses the term "little children" again.

Strong's Word Help defines these two words this way:

HELPS Word-studies

5040 *tekníon* (the diminutive form of [5043](#) /*téknon*, "child") – a little child; (figuratively) someone deeply loved (endeared).

When we look at Strong's Concordance word # 5043 "teknon" we find this description.

“5043 *téknon* – properly, a child; (figuratively) anyone living in full dependence on the heavenly Father, i.e. fully (willingly) relying upon the Lord in glad submission. This prompts God to transform them into His likeness.

[5043](#) /*téknon* ("a child living in willing dependence") illustrates how we must all live in utter dependence upon the Lord (moment-by-moment), drawing guidance (care, nurture) from our heavenly Father. [5043](#) (*téknon*) emphasizes the childlike (not childish) attitude of heart that willingly (gladly) submits to the Father's plan. We profoundly learn this as we are receptive to Christ speaking His *rhēma*-word within to impart faith (cf. Ro 8:16,17 with Ro 10:17, Gk text).”

It is a profound love that only a mother or father can have for their child. John is addressing those he wrote to and us by association as children that he loves with the Love of God. He is encouraging us to take up that walk with Christ in God's Love for other people.

John now calls out specific family members and articulates specific things that each does and should do.

13 I write unto you, **fathers**, because ye have **known him that is** from the beginning. I write unto you, **young men**, because ye have **overcome the wicked one**. I write unto you, **little children**, because ye have **known the Father**. **14** I have written unto you, **fathers**, because ye have **known him that is** from the beginning. I have written unto you, **young men**, because **ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you**, and ye **have overcome the wicked one**.

This family unit that is identified here pulls at the Father, Son, and child relationship. John goes on to encourage each of us in placing our attention, our Faith and our Love solely in the Father. Love towards this world negates that Love that we should have for the Father.

Do Not Love the World

15 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16** For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. **17** And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

God has never deceived us, but many have deceived themselves. There are many that think they can save this world; they have invested their lives in it. It has become a religion to them and will cost them everything. This world we were told by God and reinforced by Jesus, is temporary. Every one pretty much knows

life is temporary here on earth, but for some they cannot conceive of life without this world. Satan's goal is to make this world the most important thing along with life in this world. If he can accomplish that then he wins many souls that worship the creation rather than the Creator. With their intentions decided God gave them up to that which they desired over Him.

Romans 1: [24](#)Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: [25](#)Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

[26](#)For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: [27](#)And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

[28](#)And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; [29](#)Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, [30](#)Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, [31](#)Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: [32](#)Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

God will not be mocked!

Beware of Antichrists

18Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

The spirit and evil spirit of Satan entered the world at the fall of man at the Garden of Eden. That demonic spirit has filled many over the millennia and continues today; even increasing. It is coming to a crescendo, culminating in the final Anti-Christ and bringing with it the Tribulation and God's Wrath. Even the early Christians believed that the end was near, yet we have waited over 2000 years for God's judgement on this earth.

Most of us in our Bible Study are in our 70's and were born when the miracle of Israel happened. A case can be made that it is this generation that will see the Rapture of the Church and the Wrath of God poured out on this Earth and those who remain.

Luke 21: 32Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.

To know what Jesus was alluding to read that entire chapter Luke 21.

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19They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would *no doubt* have continued with us: but *they went out*, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

1 Corinthians 11:19 For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.

Matthew 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

God allows anyone to profess that they are believers, but the truth will always come out. In this case John is referencing some who professed Christ that were within their group but in the end, they revealed their lack of faith and left the Body of Christ. The question always is for us; were they ever Born Again to begin with. John's admonition was that they were never true believers just want to be believers and when challenging times beset them, they left.

20But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. 21I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

John draws out his total and complete commitment and belief in Christ as the Messiah and God as the Father. John is encouraging all of us to have that same total commitment to the

TRUTH. The Word is the TRUTH, there is no lie in Christ Jesus or in His Father. Christ always pointed toward the Father in all He did on earth. And God always points to His Son for what He did on this earth. They together with the Holy Spirit are the sum of TRUTH and there is no lie in them individually or collectively.

22Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. 23Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: *(but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also. 24Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.*

There have been ample examples of those who claimed belief but when hard times fell on them, they fell away, revealing that they did not abide in the TRUTH. If you abide in God, He will abide in you and never forsake you. If you are playing games with God, He knows it and you are in grave danger. Abandon love of this world and place your Love, Hope and Trust in the only Trustworthy one, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Three in One.

25And this is the promise that he hath promised us, *even eternal life.*

God has promised many things if we will Love Him and Abide in Him. The culmination of those promises is eternal Life with Him. No life without him, Know LIFE with HIM.

If you have been seduced by evil spirits in the form of friends and family, or life in general, retreat and find peace and safety in Christ Jesus, the Word the TRUTH. Put on the whole armor of God so that you can deal with those you had to step back from in a Godly way and by your Words and Actions lead them to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Remember our Words and our Actions must be a consistent message of Love and Hope. I talked with a friend not long ago that said he had come to the conclusion that all of his friends that were not true Christians continually pulled him away from Christ with their language, and lifestyles. He made the decision to stop associating with them and he was so happy that he had done that.

26These *things* have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you. 27But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

James 4: 7Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. 9Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning,

and your joy to heaviness. [10](#)Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Continue in Him

[28](#)And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. [29](#)If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.

Being Born Again, was in fact the easy part of Kingdom living while here. God wants us to live as if we were already in His presence in Heaven, living without sin. The problem is Satan is the ruler of this world and has the ability through our flesh to continue to pester us. Actually, not even Satan, he was responsible for the evil that enter this domain and that we all partook of before finding Christ. Now that lingering legacy in our flesh continues to haunt us beckoning us back to that dark domain every day. Question is do we let it or do we stand with Christ, through Christ and by Christ?

The question John asks is will WE be ashamed at His coming, not of Him but of ourselves and the way we have behaved after we were Saved. Anyone in here not ashamed of your life after being Saved. I know I am ashamed. But there is always hope, always the next challenge that comes to us, can we be victorious, or will we fall again?

Salvation is so easy like learning your ABC's.

A: **A**cknowledge that we are sinners,

Romans 3:10As it is written, *There is none righteous, no, not one:*

Romans 10:13For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

B: **B**elieve in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior

John 3:16 16For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 1:12But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

C: **C**onfess our sins and confess Jesus before the world.

Romans 10: 9That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ***10***For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

It is through that relationship with our Lord and Master that Righteousness is born in us and grows in us as we walk in obedience to the One who died on the Cross for us.

It is the walk that is the challenge, not so challenging that we lose our salvation but we are in jeopardy of being ashamed at Jesus'

return. Let's seek God in everything we say and do that we can walk in righteousness the rest of our days.

28And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and **not be ashamed** before him at his coming. ***29***If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.

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