

Virtual Study of I John – 1 John 5:1-21
Bellevue Church of Christ – Summer / Fall 2020

Continued
from 4:18-21

In contrast to the antichrists

Jn 3:16; 1Jn 2:22; 4:2

Born of God

1Jn 2:29; 3:1-2
Rom 8:14-17

Love God

- Vertical relationship
- 1Jn 2:3-6; 15-17; 3:10, 21-24
- Mt 22:34-40
- Titus 1:16
- Exo 20:3-11
- Deu 6:5, 10:12-13, 11:1
- John 14:15, 21, 23-24

¹**Everyone** who *believes that Jesus is the Christ* has been *born of God*, and **everyone** who *loves the Father* loves whoever has been *born of him*.

²By this we know that we *love the children of God*, when we *love God* and *obey his commandments*. <- *God's commandments speak to both our HORIZONTAL and VERTICAL relationships*

-Mt 22:34-40

³For this is the *love of God*, that *we keep his commandments*. And his commandments are *not burdensome*. <- *Matt 11:28-30*

⁴For **everyone** who has been *born of God* *overcomes the world*. And this is the *victory* that has *overcome the world—our faith*.

⁵Who is it that *overcomes the world* except the one who *believes that Jesus is the Son of God*? <- *1Jn 4:4; Jn 16:33; Rom 3:21-26; 8:31-39; Eph 2:8-10*

⁶This is he who came by *water and blood*—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the *Spirit* is the one who testifies, because the *Spirit* is the truth.

⁷For there are three that *testify*:

⁸the *Spirit* and the *water* and the *blood*; and these three agree.

⁹If we receive the testimony of men, the *testimony of God is greater*, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. <- *John 5:31-38*

¹⁰Whoever *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 in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. <- *1Jn 2:23*

¹¹And this is the testimony, that God gave us *eternal life*, and this *life* is in his *Son*. <- *1Jn 1:1-2; 2:25; 3:15*

¹²Whoever has the Son has *life*; whoever does not have the Son of God *does not have life*.

Love Neighbor (7-11)

- Horizontal relationships
- 1Jn 2:7-11; 3:10-24; 4:7-21
- Mt 22:34-40
- Exo 20:12-17
- Lev 19:18
- Rom 13:9,10
- Jam 2:8

Water

- *Baptism?
- Mt 3:13-17
- John 1:32
- *Spear?
- Jn 19:28-35

Blood

- Jn 19:28-35

Spirit

- Jn 1:32; 14:26; 15:26; 16:5-15
- Acts 5:32
- 1Co 12:3

Jesus is the **object** of our belief and our faith
The other option is belief or faith in **self**

All three of these testify that Jesus came in the flesh.

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Know

In contrast to the knowledge professed by the Gnostic teachers.

-Compare to Jn 20:31

Leading to Death

-Mark 3:22-30

If one has denied Christ, and refuses the teaching of His disciples, then there should be no expectation they will receive salvation.

The key point of distinction between the teaching of John and that of the false teachers

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that **you may know** that *you have eternal life*.

¹⁴And this is the **confidence** that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will *he hears us*. <- 3:21;
Heb 4:14-16

¹⁵And if **we know** that *he hears us in whatever we ask*, **we know** that *we have the requests that we have asked of him*. <- 1Jn 3:22;
Mk 11:24

¹⁶If anyone sees his brother *committing a sin not leading to death*, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. ***There is sin that leads to death***; I do not say that one should pray for that.

¹⁷All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

¹⁸**We know** that *everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning*, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. <- 1:9; 2:1-2; 3:4-10;
Rom 6:1-14

¹⁹**We know** that *we are from God*, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. <- 3:8

²⁰And **we know** that the *Son of God has come and has given us understanding*, so that **we may know him who is true**; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

²¹Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

We Know (15, 18-20)

*We know that he hears us—whatever we ask (15)

*We know that we have what we asked (15)

*We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin (18)

*We know that we are children of God (19)

*We know also that the Son of God has come (20)

*We...know him who is true (20)

Idols

-Anything that stands between us and God

-The belief system of the early Gnostics was a form of idolatry

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1. Why are those who believe that Jesus is the Christ “born of God?”
(vv. 1, 4:18-21, John 3:16; Rom 8:14-17; I John 2:22; 4:2)

2. What is the test to know if one loves the Father? (vv. 1)

3. What is the test to know if one loves the children of God? (vv. 2-3; 1 John 2:3-6;
3:10,21-24; Exodus 20:3-11; Deut 6:5; 10:12-13; 11:1; John 14:15, 21, 23-24)

4. How does one overcome the world? (vv. 4-5; Rom 3:21-26; 8:31-39)

5. What is meant by the statement that Jesus came “by water and blood?”
(vv. 6-8; John 1:32; 19:34-35; Matt 3:13-17)

6. Why is the witness of God greater than the witness of men?
(vv. 9-12; John 5:31-38; 1 John 1:1-2; 2:25; 3:15)

7. How can one know if he has eternal life? (vv. 13; John 20:31)

8. What gives boldness in prayer? Why? (vv. 14-15; Heb 4:14-16)

9. What is a “sin unto death?” (vv. 16-17; Mark 3:9)

10. What does it mean that “whoever is born of God does not keep on sinning?”
(vv. 18; 1 John 3:4-10; Rom 6:1-14)

11. What is the key point of distinction between the teaching of John and that of the
false teachers? (vv. 19-20)

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Everyone

1 John 4:18–21 (ESV)

¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who 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: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Jesus is the Christ

John 3:16 (ESV)

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

1 John 2:22 (ESV)

²² 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.

1 John 4:2 (ESV)

² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,

Born of God

1 John 2:29 (ESV)

²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

1 John 3:1–2 (ESV)

¹ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

Romans 8:14–17 (ESV)

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Love God by Keeping Commandments

1 John 2:3–6 (ESV)

³ And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴ Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵ but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: ⁶ whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

1 John 2:15–17 (ESV)

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 desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever **does the will of God** abides forever.

1 John 3:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

1 John 3:21–24 (ESV)

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

Titus 1:16

¹⁶ They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

Matthew 22:34-40 (ESV)

³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵ And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ **And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."** ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ **And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.** ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

All of God's Commandments Deal with either Loving God or Loving Neighbor

Deuteronomy – 4 speeches by Moses prior to the children of Israel entering the land of Canaan (1st speech talked about the failures of the first generation)

Chapter 4 – Reminds them of the Statutes, Rules, Commandments (three ways of saying the same thing)

Chapter 5 – Repeats the 10 Commandments for the current generation

Chapter 6 – Love God with ALL your heart, ALL your soul, All your Might

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (ESV)

⁴"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.** ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Chapter 10 – Loving God = doing what God commanded

Deuteronomy 10:12-16 (ESV)

¹²"And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, **to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul,** ¹³**and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good?** ¹⁴Behold, to the Lord your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. ¹⁵Yet the Lord set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. ¹⁶Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn.

Chapter 11 – Loving God = doing what God commanded

Deuteronomy 11:1 (ESV)

¹"You shall therefore love the Lord your God and keep his charge, his statutes, his rules, and his commandments always.

Jesus also equated the keeping of commandments to loving God

John 14:15 (ESV)

¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

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John 14:21 (ESV)

²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

John 14:23-24 (ESV)

²³ Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

Love Neighbor

1 John 2:7–11 (ESV)

⁷ Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. ⁸ At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, 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 abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. ¹¹ But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

1 John 3:10–24 (ESV)

¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

¹¹ For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹² We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³ Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹ By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰ for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. 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 pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ Whoever

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keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

1 John 4:7–21 (ESV)

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God 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 to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide 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 his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for 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. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who 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: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Leviticus 19:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Romans 13:9-10 (ESV)

⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

James 2:8 (ESV)

⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.

Matthew 25:31–46 (ESV)

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom

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prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Not Burdensome

Matthew 11:28–30 (ESV)

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Overcome the World

1 John 4:4 (ESV)

⁴ Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

John 16:33 (ESV)

³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

Romans 3:21–26 (ESV)

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his

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righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Romans 8:31–39 (ESV)

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 2:8–10 (ESV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Water

*Baptism?

Matthew 3:13–17 (ESV)

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “**Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.**” Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

John 1:32 (ESV)

³² And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

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*Spear?

John 19:28–35 (ESV)

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “**I thirst.**” ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “**It is finished,**” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

³¹ Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. ³² So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. ³⁵ He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe.

Blood

John 19:28–35 (ESV)

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “**I thirst.**” ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “**It is finished,**” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

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Spirit

John 1:32 (ESV)

³² And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

John 14:26 (ESV)

²⁶ **But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.**

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John 15:26 (ESV)

²⁶ “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

John 16:5–15 (ESV)

⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Acts 5:32 (ESV)

³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

1 Corinthians 12:3 (ESV)

³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

Witness of God

John 5:31–38 (ESV)

³¹ If I alone bear witness about myself, my testimony is not true. ³² There is another who bears witness about me, and I know that the testimony that he bears about me is true. ³³ You sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. ³⁴ Not that the testimony that I receive is from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved. ³⁵ He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. ³⁶ But the testimony that I have is greater than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me. ³⁷ And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, ³⁸ and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent.

I John 5:1-21 – Notes and Questions for Discussion
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1 John 2:23 (ESV)

²³ No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

Eternal Life

1 John 1:1–2 (ESV)

¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—

1 John 2:25 (ESV)

²⁵ And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.

1 John 3:15 (ESV)

¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

Know

John 20:31 (ESV)

³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Boldness in Prayer

1 John 3:21 (ESV)

²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;

Hebrews 4:14–16 (ESV)

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

1 John 3:22 (ESV)

²² and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

Mark 11:24 (ESV)

²⁴ Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

Sin unto Death

Mark 3:22–30 (ESV)

²² And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.” ²³ And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶ And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. ²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

²⁸ “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” — ³⁰ for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

Keep on Sinning

1 John 1:9 (ESV)

⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 2:1–2 (ESV)

¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 3:4–10 (ESV)

⁴ Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵ You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶ No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. ⁸ Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God’s seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. ¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

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Romans 6:1–14 (ESV)

¹ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Evil One

1 John 3:8 (ESV)

⁸ Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.