

# The Book of 1<sup>st</sup> John Speaks to Christian Men about Assurance of Salvation

Week Three

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Date:

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## Introduction:

**John 10:28-30** And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand. **30** I and *my* Father are one.

Author: John the Apostle    Timing: 90-95AD    Audience: The believers at the Church

The book of 1<sup>st</sup> John was written by John the Apostle because he was in an evangelical battle to keep pure the teaching of the Gospel. To keep Jesus center stage as the “Son of God” the “Christ” the true “Anointed One,” and the Salvation of Man. John gives a direct and unambiguous picture of the saved believer’s relationship with Jesus Christ. John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John is fighting the intellectuals in Ephesus as they are trying to challenge the deity of Jesus.

The underlying theme of the book is the proper mind set of believer toward Salvation. That is, sound attention to the basics of Christianity; faith, obedience, and love. These lead to happiness, holiness, and assurance.

## Chapter Two

**2:1** My 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:

**2:2** And he is the propitiation [atonement, reconciliation, mercy seat] for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins* of the whole world.

**2:3** And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

1. Why use the phrase “My little children?” Discuss the contrast between the references to both the Old Testament and the New Testament in the above passage.

**2:4** He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

**2:5** But whoso keepeth his **word**, in him verily is the love of God **perfected**: hereby know we that we are in him.

**2:6** He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

2. Identify the “him” and “his” above. What commandments are being broken? Refer to John 14:6 (Intro) as a hint. Discuss perfecting God’s love and walking as He walks.

**2:7** 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.  
**2:8** Again, 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.

3. What is the old commandment? What is the new commandment? Where are they?
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**2:9** He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.  
**2:10** He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.  
**2:11** But 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.

4. Who is the light? What is the light? What is the darkness?
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**2:12** I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for **his** name's sake.  
**2:13** 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.  
**2:14** 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.

5. Why has John chosen to call out fathers, young men, and children?
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**2:15** 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.  
**2:16** 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.  
**2:17** And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.

6. What is it to love the world? What is the “pride of life?” How can we “abideth forever?”
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2:18 Little 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.

2:19 They 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.

2:20 But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.

7. What is the “last time?” What antichrists is John referring to? How do we “know all things?”
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2:21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

2:23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.

8. Relate the above passage to what is happening in Ephesus and to what happens often within us?
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2:24 Let 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.

2:25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, *even* eternal life,

9. Let what “abide in you?” Discuss here the Assurance of Salvation.
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2:26 These *things* have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.

2:27 But 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.

10. Who is doing the seducing (in Ephesus and in us)? What anointing have we received? From whom? By whom?
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**2:28** 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.  
**2:29** If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.

11. What does it mean to abide in Christ?

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**Summary:**

This second chapter to the book of 1<sup>st</sup> John tells us not to sin and to remember that we have all we need inside of us via the anointing of the Holy Spirit of God to persevere. Col 2:8 says, “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.” I believe, in a nut shell, that is what the Apostle John is telling us. In doing this, John is also helping us recognize the patterns of behavior in our lives that can give us confidence in our faith and our salvation.

Thank you for attending,

Pat Turner