

It's About That New Life – 1, 2, 3 John

- ❖ Written by the Apostle John, the last of the original 12
 - We will focus on 3 themes: The Light, The Love, The Life
- ❖ John writes so that:
 - Our joy, not happiness will be full – 1 John 1:4, John 15:11, 16:24
 - Our faith can be settled in Christ
 - We can deal with sin – 1 John 1:8-10
 - We can beware of phonies – 2 John 2:18-27
 - We might be saved by believing on and in Jesus – 1 John 5:13

1 John 1

The Word of Life

- ❖ Vs. 1: John is speaking from personal experience –
 - Was from the beginning – John 1:1; 1 John 2:13-14
 - We have heard – Mat. 13:16
 - We have seen with our eyes – 2 Pet. 1:16
 - Seen: horaō: 1) to see with the eyes; 2) to see with the mind, to perceive, know; 3) to see, i.e. become acquainted with by experience, to experience – Thayer's Greek Definitions
 - We have looked upon – John 1:14, 11:45
 - Looked upon: theaomai: 1) to behold, look upon, view attentively, contemplate (often used of public shows); 1a) of important persons that are looked on with admiration; 2) to view, take a view of; 2a) in the sense of visiting, meeting with a person; 3) to learn by looking, to see with the eyes, to perceive – Thayer's Greek Definitions
 - Our hands have handled – further addressing the gnostics who believed that Jesus was an illusion or thought but not an actual person – Luke 24:39; John 20:25-27

Part of the teaching of Gnosticism was that though Jesus was God, He was not actually a physical man, but instead some kind of pseudo-physical phantom. Yet John declared, "I heard Him! I saw Him! I studied Him! I touched Him!" – David Guzik's Enduring Word Commentary

- The Word of life – John 1:14
- ❖ Vs. 2: -4: Eternal Life manifested unto us – John 5:26, 6:48, 11:25
 - Vs. 2: which was with the Father – John 1:1, 18; John 17:24
 - People can't have fellowship with Christ when we haven't told them about Him

- True fellowship is amongst each other and with the Father and Jesus Christ – Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 10:16

Walk in the Light (vs. 5-7)

- ❖ God is light – John 1:19
 - Speaks of the very nature of God – 1 Pet. 2:9; 1 Sam. 2:2; Exo 15:11;
 - Light symbolizes purity, truth, knowledge, prosperity, and so much more
 - James 1:17; John 1:4-5; 1 Tim. 6:11-16
 - Because God is light, Heb. 4:13
- ❖ While many believe that God is light, do we also believe that there is no darkness in him AT ALL? – 1 John 2:4, 23, 27; 1 John 3:6; 1 John 4:2-8
- ❖ None of us are without sin – Rom. 3:23

- ❖ Vs. 6: Saying we have fellowship with God and being in fellowship with God are not the same – John 8:12; 2 Cor. 6:14

- ❖ Vs. 7: The true measure of having fellowship is walking in the light – Isa. 2:5
 - Fellowship with one another
 - The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin – 1 Cor. 6:11
 - God shows up – Mat. 18:20

Don't Lie to Yourself (Vs. 8-10)

- ❖ Self deception, no truth in us – Pro. 28:13
 - We must be aware of and deal with sin
- ❖ Jesus is faithful and just to forgive us our sins – Rom. 3:24-26

- ❖ There is power in your confession of sin – 1 John 1:9

- ❖ The grave danger in not admitting we have sinned – 1 John 1:10
 - We make him a liar – 1 John 5:10

1 John 2

Christ is the Answer (vs. 1-2)

- ❖ Vs. 1: my little children: meant as endearment and age
 - That ye sin not – John says the purpose of the epistle is to help you not sin
 - If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father
 - Advocate: parakletos: an intercessor, consoler, advocate, comforter
(Strongs Hebrew and Greek Dictionaries)
 - To say you have no sin is to deny the work and office of Christ as Advocate
1 John 1:8; Rom. 8:34
 - Christ the righteous – 2 Cor. 5:21
 - The sufficiency of His Blood – Acts 20:28; Eph. 2:13; Rev. 12:11
- ❖ Vs. 2: the propitiation (hilasmos: atonement) for our sins – 1 John 1:7; 1 Pet. 2:24

Do We Know Him (vs. 3-6)

- ❖ Vs. 3-4: do we keep His commandments?
 - Saying and not keeping makes you a liar (read vs. 4 from MSG)
 - What makes you a liar is that the truth is not in you – 1 John 2:21
 - The word for “know” in this passage is ginosko: to become very acquainted with

The “New” Commandment (vs. 7-14)

- ❖ Vs. 7: This isn't new but needs to be refreshed in you
 - From the beginning – 1 John 3:11, 23: 4:21
 - The old is the word... - 1 John 1:1; John 1:1-2
- ❖ Vs. 8: New (kainos: refreshed) – John 13:34, 15:12
 - The darkness is past and the true light now shineth – Rom. 13:12; John 1:9
- ❖ Vs. 9-11: A test of whether you are still in darkness
 - Brother: adelphos: 1) a brother, whether born of the same two parents or only of the same father or mother; 2) having the same national ancestor, belonging to the same people, or countryman; 3) any fellow or man; 4) a fellow believer, united to another by the bond of affection; 5) an associate in employment or office; 6) brethren in Christ (Thayer's Greek Definitions)
 - Vs. 9: Do you hate your brother? Hate: miseō: to hate, regard with ill-will, Mat. 5:43-44; Mat 10:22; to detest, abhor, John 3:20; Rom. 7:15; in NT to regard with less affection, love less, esteem less, Mat. 6:24; Luke 14:26 (Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary).
 - Darkness: scotia: 1) darkness; 2) the darkness due to want of light; 3) metaphorically used of ignorance of divine things, and its associated wickedness, and the resultant misery in hell
 - Vs. 10: If you love your brother, you stay in the light and don't trip up others
 - Vs. 11: if you hate your brother, you stumble and don't are lost

- ❖ Vs. 12-14: Older ought to know, younger empowered by abiding Word and have overcome

Don't Love this World (Vs. 15-17)

- ❖ Love neither the:
 - World: it's ways, systems, strategies, mindset, etc.
 - World: it's things, possessions, status, positions
- ❖ We must love God more than anything – Deut. 6:5; Mark 12:30
- ❖ Vs. 16: Lust of the flesh – sensual appetite: John 8:44; 1 Pet. 2:11; Tit. 2:12
 - Lust of the eyes – your desires, evil desires from what you've seen: Mat. 5:28; Psa. 119:37
 - Pride of life – selfish, self-serving: Mat. 23:6; Rom. 1:30; Pro. 29:23; Psa. 10:4; Pro. 25:27
- ❖ Vs. 17: eternal life is for those who do the Will of God

The Danger of the antichrist (Vs. 18-27)

- ❖ Vs. 18: Last time – 1 Pet. 4:7
- ❖ A little about antichrist - (1Jn_2:18; 1Jn_2:22; 1Jn_4:3; 2Jn_1:7)
 - The antichrist will break covenant and commit the abomination of desolation – Rev. 11:1; Dan. 9:27, 11:31, 12:11; Mat. 24:15-16, 24:21; 2 The. 2:1-4; John 5:43
 - Miraculous recovery of antichrist – Rev. 13:12-14; 17:8-11
 - The antichrist is given great overcoming power – Rev. 13:7
 - Make war with the saints – Dan. 7:21; Rev. 11:7
 - Power over peoples – Rev. 11:18
 - The antichrist will be worshipped by those not in the Book of Life – Rev. 13:8; Exo. 32:32; Rev. 20:12-15; Mat. 25:34; Rev. 17:8
 - The antichrist (Rev. 16:13) and false prophet (Rev. 13:8,12-13) cast into the lake of fire – Isa. 30:33; Rev. 14:10; Rev. 19:20
- **How will antichrists be known?**
 - **They depart from the fellowship (vs. 19)**
 - They were never of us – Mat. 7:23; John 15:2
 - **They deny Christ (vs. 20-25)**
 - Vs. 20: You have an unction – an anointing – 2 Cor. 1:21; Acts 3:14; John 16:13
 - ◆ You know (eidō: to perceive by any of the sense, discern)
 - **NO LIE IS OF THE TRUTH** – Vs. 21
 - Liars deny Jesus is the Christ – is antichrist – 2 John 7; 1 John 4:3
 - Vs. 23: You can't have the Father without having the Son – John 15:23; 5:23; 1 John 4:15, 5:1
 - **They deceive and seduce (vs. 26-29)**



- Vs. 27: you have the Holy Ghost to guide and teach and keep you – John 14:16, 16:13; Jer. 31:33
- Vs. 28: Not ashamed at His coming – 1 John 3:21; 4:17, 5:14
- Vs. 29: Act 22:14; 1 John 3:7, 10

1 John 3

What Manner of Love (vs. 1-2)

- ❖ Vs. 1: Behold: examine it, look at this thing
 - What manner – patapos: from what country, nation or tribe of love; of what sort or quality Source: Thayer's Greek Definitions
 - 1 John 2:15-17; John 17:16
 - Kingdom love is agape: faithful, unconditional, pure, committed, sacrificial – 1 Cor. 13
 - It has been bestowed upon us by the Father – given to, supplied to, furnished to, lavished upon us
 - We truly can't comprehend the Love of God – Rom. 8:31-39
 - The effect of His Love is that we should be called the sons (children) of God – John 1:12
 - The world can't know (perceive) you because they don't know God – John 15:18,21; 16:3
- ❖ Vs. 2: We are under transformation
 - We are the sons of God – Rom. 8:15-16; 2 Cor. 6:18; Heb. 2:11
 - Not yet appear what we shall be – Rom. 8:18-19, 23
 - We shall be like Him when He shall appear – Rom. 8:29
 - We shall see Him – Psa. 16:11

Purifying from Sin – The Attack on Your Relationship with God (vs. 3-10)

- ❖ Vs. 3: Every man that has this hope – 1 John 4:17; Rom. 8:24-25
 - It causes me to live as He is – Phil. 2:12
 - Pure: hagnos: pure, chaste, modest, innocent, blameless Source: Mounce Concise Greek-English Dictionary
- ❖ Vs. 4: Committeth – continually practices sin
 - Practicing sin is a violation of the Law – Rom. 4:15
- ❖ Vs. 5: Jesus came to take away our sins – Mat. 1:21
 - He was manifested – 1 John 1:2, 3:8
 - Take away our sins – John 1:29
 - In Him is no sin – 2 Cor. 5:21
- ❖ Vs. 6: The key to victory over sin – abiding in Christ – John 15:4-11
 - Abiding enables you to not practice sin
 - Sinners haven't seen or known Him – Rom. 6 (we must be dead to sin)
- ❖ Vs. 7: It's in the doing, not the saying – practice matters (read from MSG)

- ❖ Vs. 8: The committer (one who practices sin) is of the devil – Mat. 13:38; John 8:44; 1 Jn 3:10
 - The devil sinned from the beginning – created Lucifer (light bearer) now known as satan (adversary) – Jude 1:6; Isa. 14:12-15
 - Jesus manifested to destroy the works of the devil – Luke 10:18; Heb. 2:14
- ❖ Vs. 9: born of God – (Read MSG) John 1:3, 3:3
 - His seed remains in him – 1 Pet 1:23; 2 Tim. 1:5; Luke 8:11
- ❖ Vs. 10: The children of God manifest:
 - Righteousness
 - Love for their brothers

“Both of these are essential. Righteousness without love makes one a religious Pharisee, and love without righteousness makes one a partner in evil.” David Guzik

Love One Another (Vs. 11-24)

- ❖ Vs. 11: 1 John 2:7, 3:11, 23: 4:21; John 13:34
- ❖ Vs. 12: Not as Cain (maker, work with hands) – Gen. 4: 4-8; Heb. 11:4
 - First son of Adam and Eve
 - Failed the love test with his own brother Abel and killed him
 - Was of the wicked one – influenced and led by the devil
 - It started with disobedience and grew into far worse – Heb. 11:4
 - His offering wasn’t accepted by God
 - He was full of pride, expected God to accept his offering on Cain’s terms – Gen. 4:5-7
 - Cain hatred rooted in jealousy – 1 John 2:9; 11; Eph. 4:31; James 4:1-4 (KJV & MSG)
 - Changed his whole countenance – Gen. 4:5
 - We are not to provoke our children to anger but must tell them the truth and hold them accountable – Eph. 6:4
 - Cain would not listen to God – Gen. 4:6-7
 - Cain was jealous of Abel’s righteous works – 1 John 3:13; John 15:18-25
 - Abel’s blood cried out – Heb. 11:4
- ❖ Vs. 13: don’t be surprised when the world hates you – John 15:18; 17:14
- ❖ Vs. 14: A key sign of possessing eternal life – loving the brethren
 - Brethren: Brother: adelphos: 1) a brother, whether born of the same two parents or only of the same father or mother; 2) having the same national ancestor, belonging to the same people, or countryman; 3) any fellow or man; 4) a fellow believer, united to another by the bond of affection; 5) an associate in employment or office; 6) brethren in Christ (Thayer’s Greek Definitions)
- ❖ **Vs. 15: You are a murderer if you hate your brother**
 - Mat. 5:21; John 8:44; Gal. 5:20

Perceiving the Love of God

- ❖ Through sacrifice – Vs. 16: Christ's sacrificial example is the example for how we are to treat each other - John 3:16; John 10:10-11, 15:13
- ❖ Through compassion – vs. 17: have the ability to help (Deut. 15:7)
 - Do you have a heart to help
 - ➔ **Your heart matters** – Eph. 4:32; Rom. 12:15; Zech. 7:9-10
- ❖ Through our actions – vs. 18: Eze. 33:31; Isa. 29:13; Mat. 15:7-9
- ❖ Vs. 19: believers are of the truth – John 18:37
- ❖ Vs. 20: there is no need for condemnation when our hearts are truly set to please God – 1 Cor. 4:4-5; Heb. 4:13

The Believer's Confidence

- ❖ Vs. 21: We can have confidence toward God – Heb. 10:22; 1 John 2:28, 5:14
- ❖ Vs. 22: Obeying God matters – Psa. 34:15; John 15:7; 1 John 5:14-15
 - Pleasing God matters – John 8:29; Heb. 13:21

Don't Forget

- ❖ Vs. 23: Your believing and loving matters – Mat. 22:39
- ❖ Vs. 24: God's Presence abides where there is obedience –
 - Keep his commandments – John 14:23
 - We can dwell in God and God in us – John 14:21; 17:21
 - The evidence of His abiding Presence in us is the Holy Spirit – John 14:17; Rom. 8:9, 14-16; 1 Thes. 4:8; 1 John 4:13

1 John 4

Trying the spirits (vs. 1-6) (KJV & MSG)

- ❖ Vs. 1: Stop believing every spirit
 - We are told to try the spirit whether they are of God
 - Try: dokimazō: 1) to test, examine, prove, scrutinise (to see whether a thing is genuine or not), as metals; 2) to recognise as genuine after examination, to approve, deem worthy – Thayer's Greek Definitions
 - Believers are called to operate in discernment
 - The times – Luke 12:49-56
 - What pleases and is acceptable to God – Eph. 5:10
 - Your own self – 1 Cor. 11:28
 - How the Word is used – 2 Pet. 1:20-21
 - Read 1 Cor. 14:29; 1 Thes. 5:21
 - Necessary because are many false prophets dispatched into the world – Mat. 24:5