



1st John

God is Light, Love and Life

Lesson 04

The Test of Knowing Him

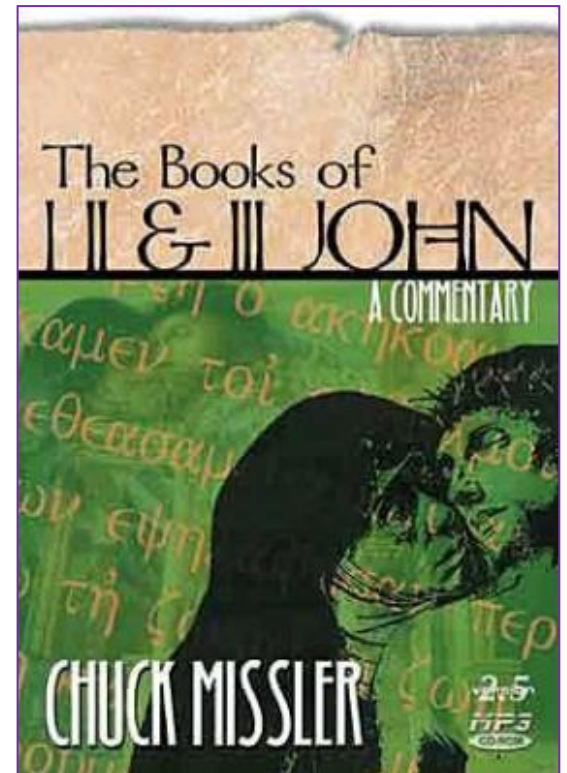
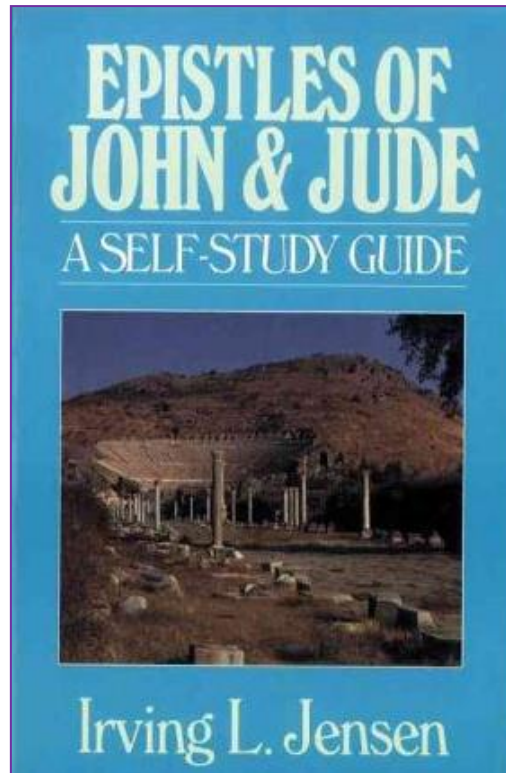
1st John 2:3-11

Philip Giorgio

Sojourners Sunday School Class

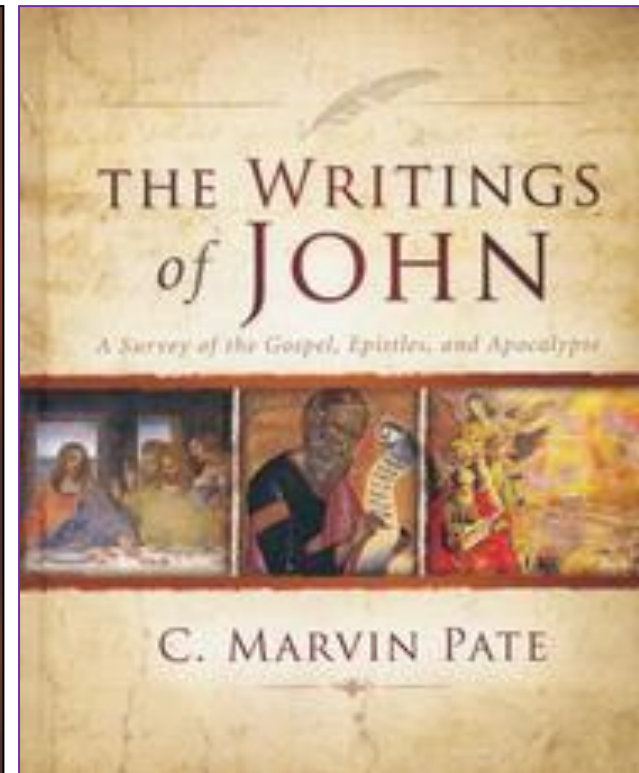
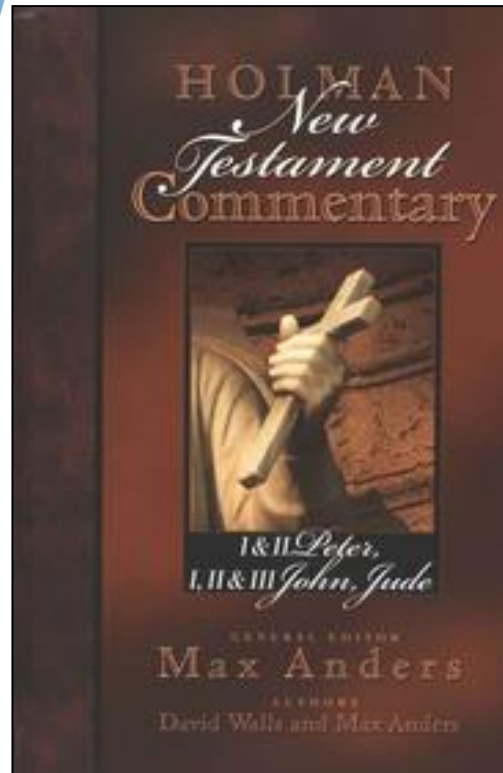


References



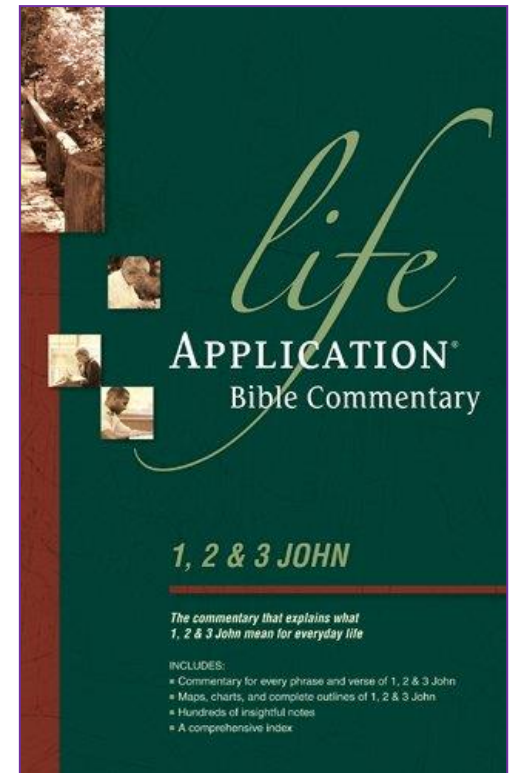
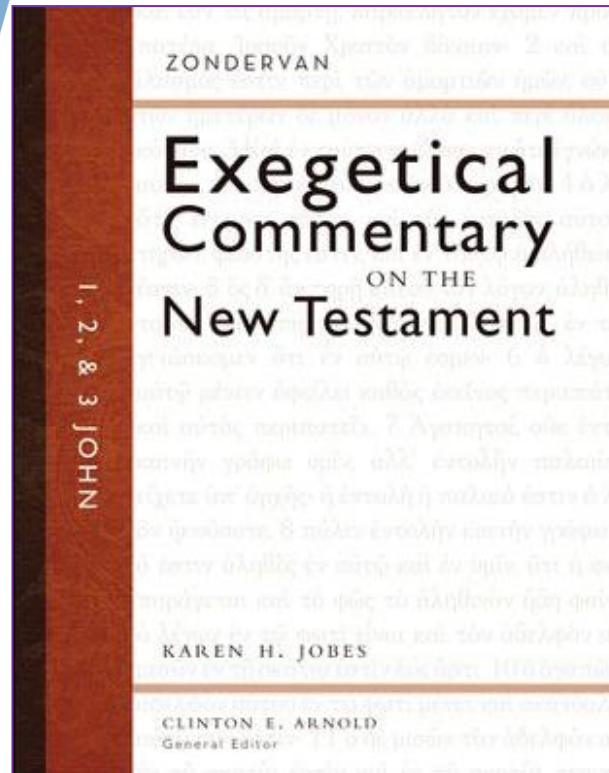


References



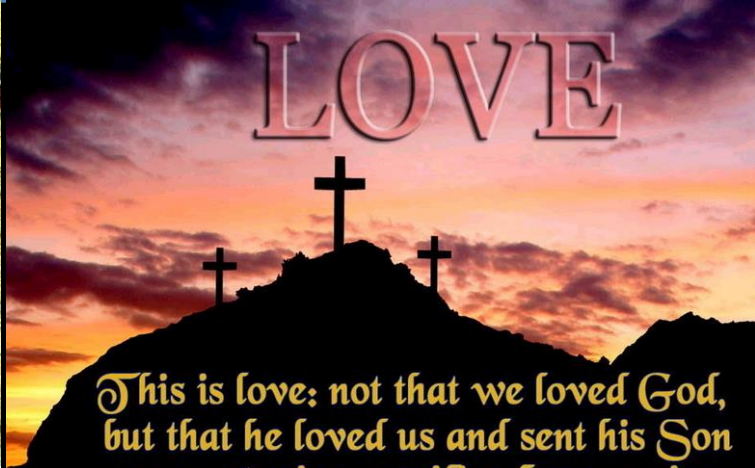


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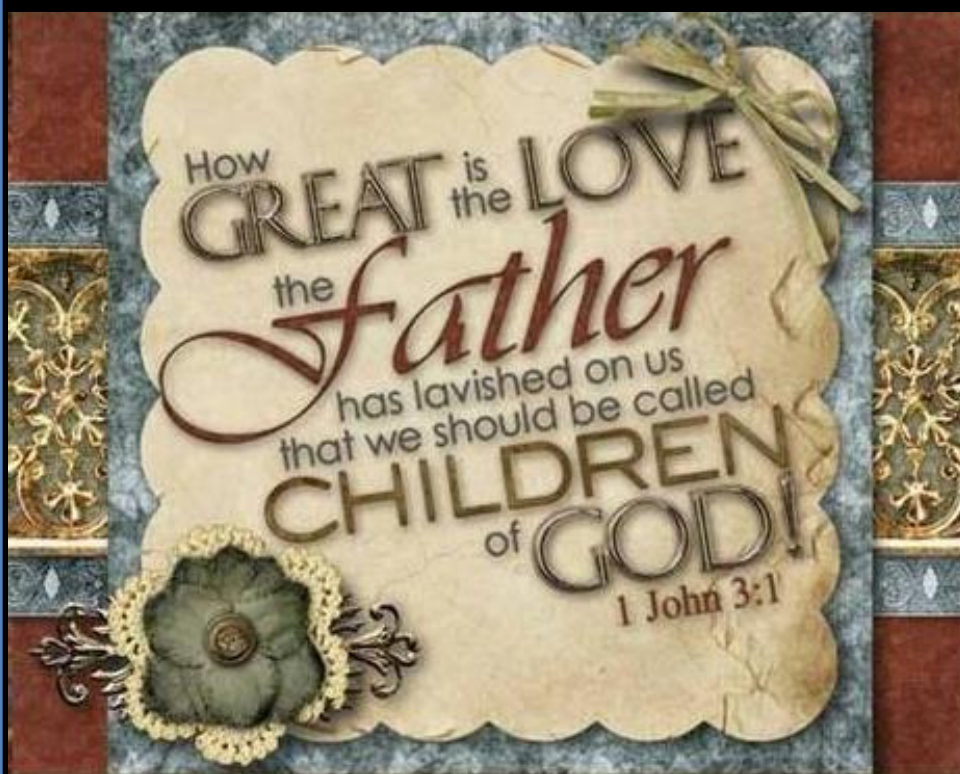


1, 2 & 3 JOHN



**This is love: not that we loved God,
but that he loved us and sent his Son
as an atoning sacrifice for our sins**

1 John 4:10 NIV





Course Outline

Course Outline - Lessons

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

- Lesson 01: Overview ... [1 JOHN]
- Lesson 02: Jesus Christ is God's Son ... [1:1-4]
- Lesson 03: Fellowship ... [1:5-2:2]
- Lesson 04: The Test of Knowing Him ... [2:3-11]
- Lesson 05: Do Not Love the Evil World ... [2:12-17]
- Lesson 06: Antichrists Warning ... [2:18-27]
- Lesson 07: Children of God ... [2:2-3:9]
- Lesson 08: The Imperative of Love ... [3:10-23]
- Lesson 09: Spirit of Truth ... [3:24-4:6]
- Lesson 10: The Consummation of Love ... [4:7-19]
- Lesson 11: Obedience by Faith ... [4:20-5:5]
- Lesson 12: God's Witness ... [5:6-13]
- Lesson 13: Knowing the Truth ... [5:14-21]

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Lesson Outline

Lesson 04 - Outline

■ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

• Lesson 04: The Test of Knowing Him

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

- Scripture Text - 1 John 2:3-11

✓ WALKING IN GOD'S LIGHT

- Know That We Know (3-6)
- Old & New Commandments (7-8)
- Light Versus Darkness (9-11)





The Test of Knowing Him

Scriptural Context

Lesson 04 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

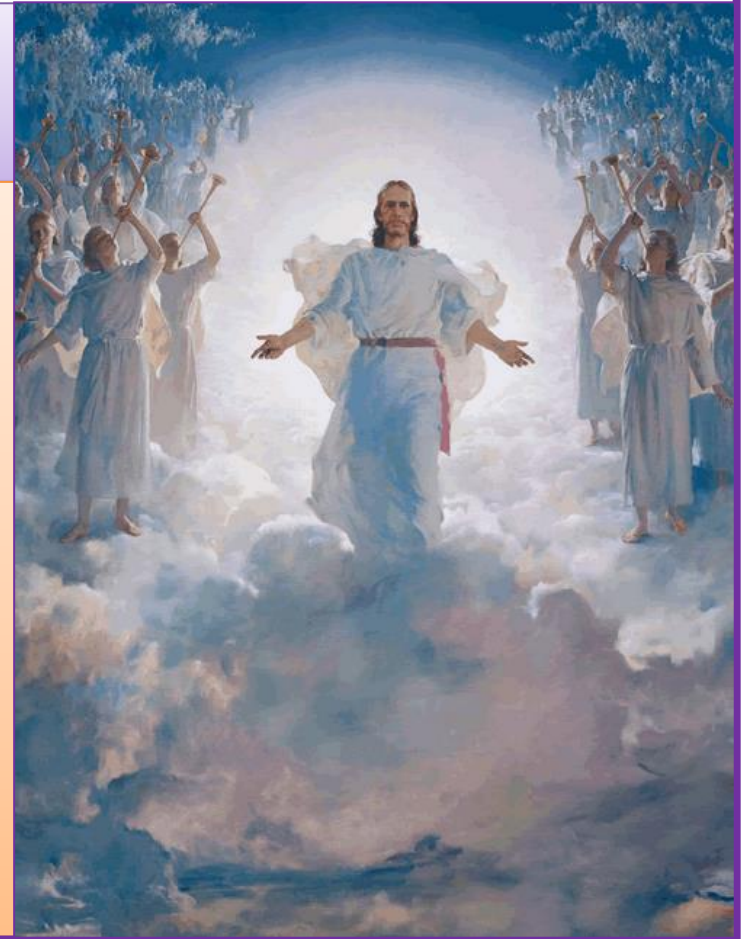
• Lesson 04: The Test of Knowing Him

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

➡ - Scripture Text - 1 John 2:3-11

✓ WALKING IN GOD'S LIGHT

- Know That We Know (3-6)
- Old & New Commandments (7-8)
- Light Versus Darkness (9-11)





THE TEST OF KNOWING HIM

1 JOHN 2:3-11

³ Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked. ... 1 John 2:3-6 ...NKJV



THE TEST OF KNOWING HIM

1 JOHN 2:3-11

⁷ Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning. ⁸ Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. ... 1 John 2:7-8 ...NKJV



THE TEST OF KNOWING HIM

1 JOHN 2:3-11

⁹ He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. ¹⁰ He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. ¹¹ But he who 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. ... 1 John 2:9-11 ...NKJV



The Test of Knowing Him

Walking in God's Light

Lesson 04 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

• Lesson 04: The Test of Knowing Him

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

- Scripture Text - 1 John 2:3-11

✓ WALKING IN GOD'S LIGHT

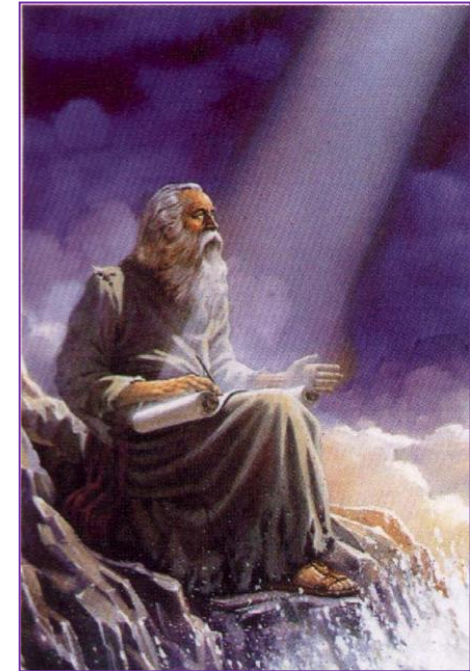
- ➔ - Know That We Know (3-6)
- Old & New Commandments (7-8)
- Light Versus Darkness (9-11)



1 John 2:3 - OBSERVATIONS

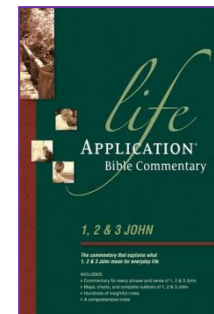
³ Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

- We Know that We Know Him
 - In the last verse (2:2) we learned that Jesus dies for the sins of the whole world,
 - But only for those who belong to Him experience His forgiveness.
- How do I know that I am a Christian?
 - This passage gives two ways to know
 1. Do what Christ says.
 2. Live as Christ wants.



Keep His Commandments

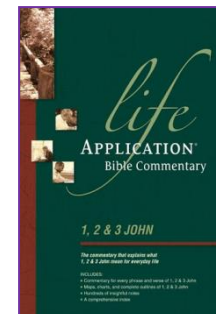
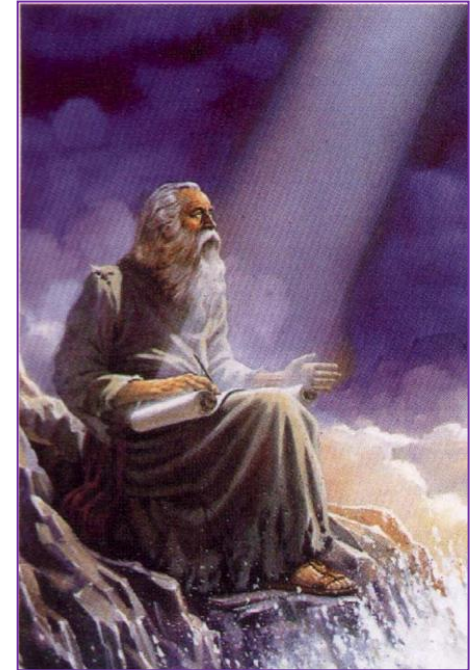
True believers wholeheartedly accept and submit to God's will as He revealed it in His Word



1 John 2:4 - OBSERVATIONS

⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

- Does Not Keep His Commandments
 - This verse illustrates the principle in the previous verse (2:3)
 - IF one does Not Obey Christ
 - THEN he is a Liar
 - AND the Truth is Not in him

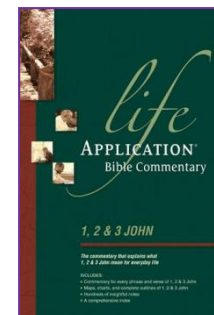
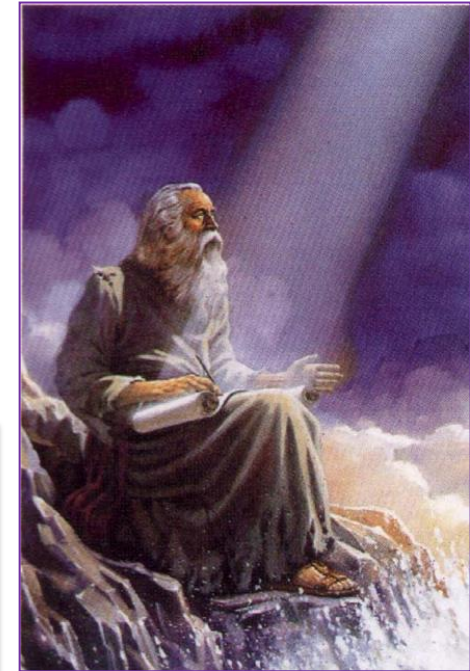


1 John 2:4 - OBSERVATIONS

⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

- Does Not Keep His Commandments
 - Anyone can claim to know Christ, you can check one's authenticity by seeing whether or not one obeys God's Word.
 - Obeying God Results in Fruit ([Matt 7:15-20](#))

¹⁵ "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Therefore by their fruits you will know them. --- [Matthew 7:15-20](#) ... NKJV

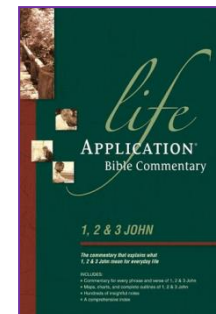
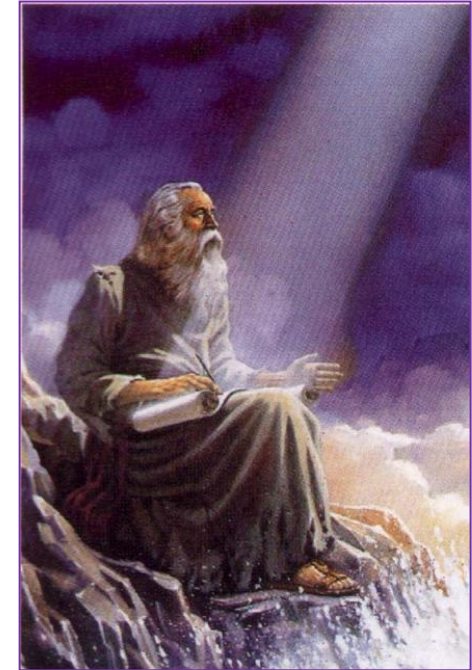


1 John 2:4 - OBSERVATIONS

⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

- Is a Liar
 - Anyone who claims to know God,
 - But does not keep His commandments, is a Liar.
 - Third of Six "Lies"/"Liars" in 1 John

#	Verses
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2	1 John 1:10
3	1 John 2:4
4	1 John 2:22
5	1 John 4:20
6	1 John 5:10

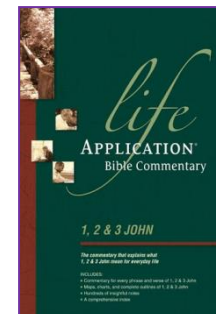
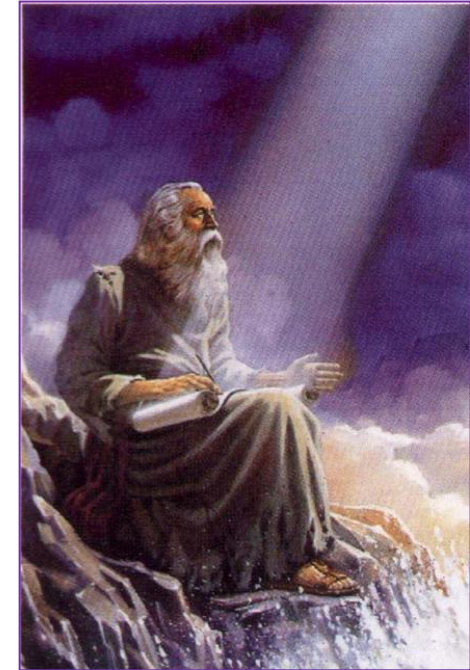


1 John 2:5 - OBSERVATIONS

⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

- Love of God is Perfected
 - Here obedience is linked not only with knowing God but with loving Him.
 - There are 3 views on the meaning of “the love of God”

- 1) God’s love for people
 - 2) A godly kind of love
 - 3) A person’s love for God
 - It could be that all three are true.

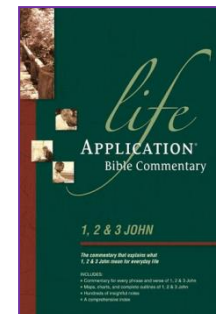
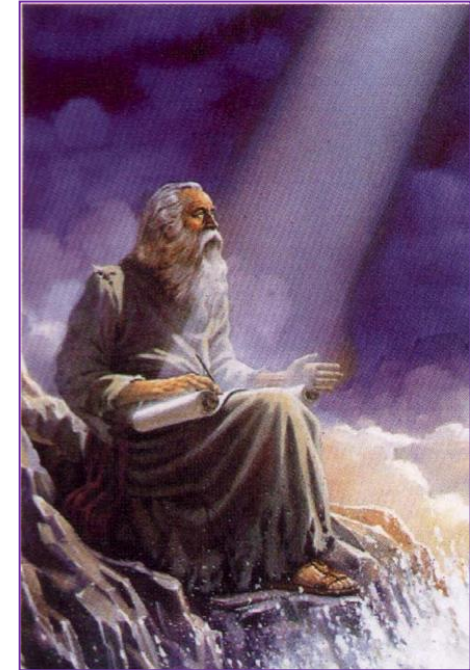


1 John 2:5 - OBSERVATIONS

⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

- **Perfected**

- God considers believers to be “perfect” because of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross on their behalf
- Believers will not be completely perfect until Christ returns to take them into His eternal kingdom.
- Believers cannot reach perfection through their own efforts
- Only God can do this, working in and through them, to aid in their becoming more like our savior Jesus the Christ



1 John 2:6 - OBSERVATIONS

6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

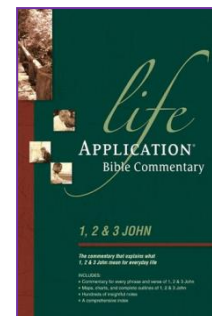
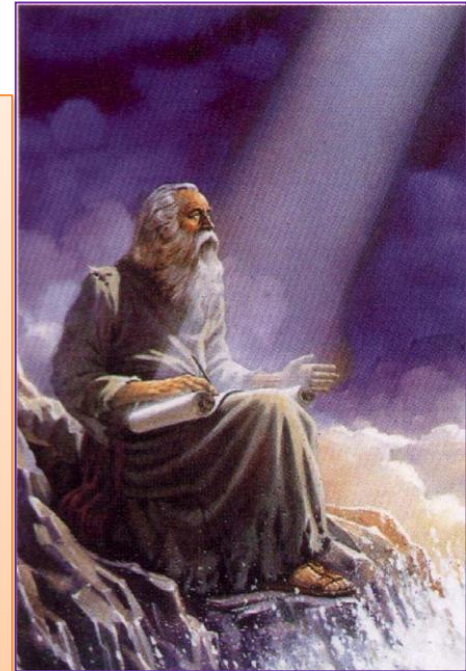
- Abides in Him

- John 15:1-7

15 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.

2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. **3** You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

5 "I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. **6** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw *them* into the fire, and they are burned. **7** If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. **8** By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.



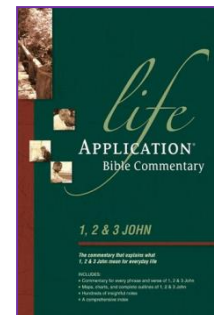
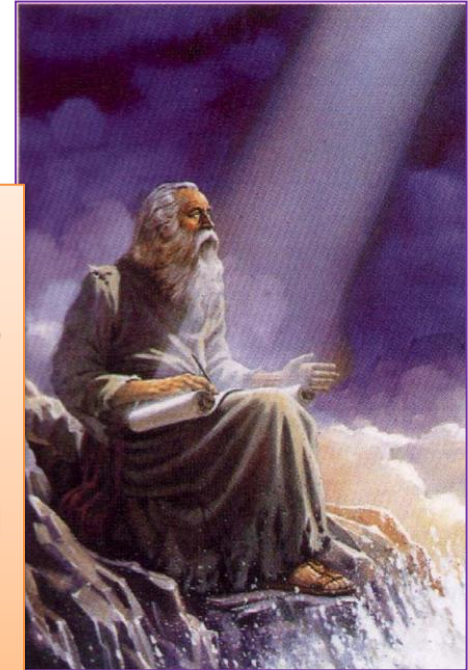
1 John 2:6 - OBSERVATIONS

⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

- Abides in Him

- John 15:1-7
- John 17:20-23 .. Jesus prays for believers

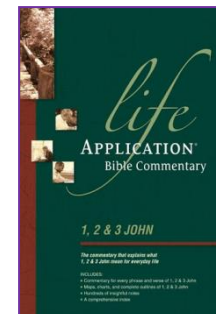
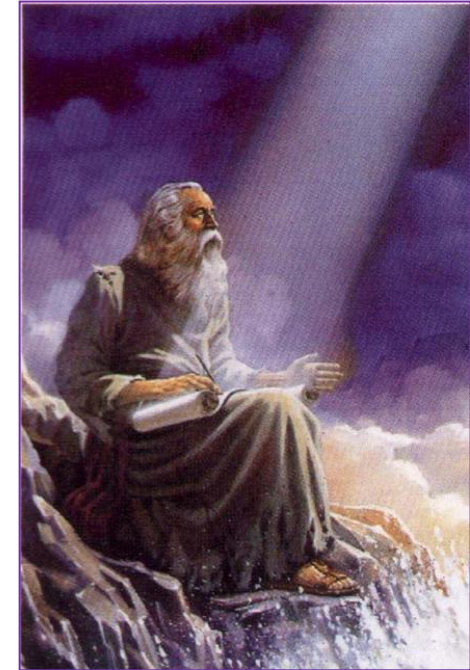
²⁰ "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, *are* in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. ²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: ²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.



1 John 2:6 - OBSERVATIONS

⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

- **Walk Just as He Walked**
 - This verse describes the close relationship between God and believers
 - Abides in Him
 - Walking refers to how people conduct their lives and express their attitudes in their actions.
 - Jesus portrays in human terms absolute obedience to the Father.
 - Anyone who wonders how to obey God can look at Jesus.

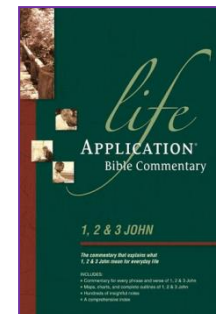
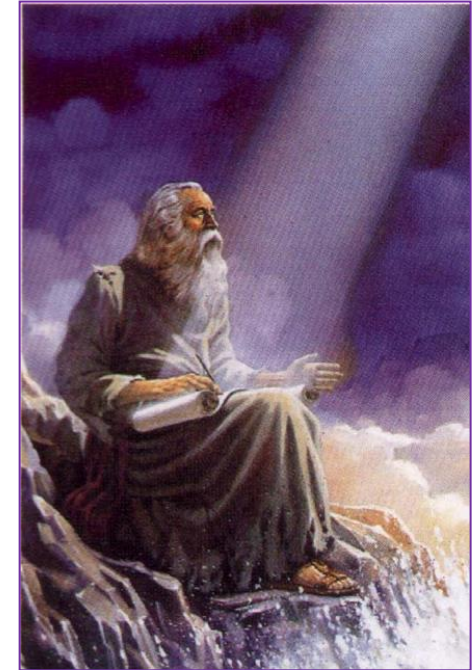


1 John 2:6 - OBSERVATIONS

⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

- Walk Just as He Walked
 - Our claim to live for Christ must be backed up by following His example of
 - 1) complete obedience to God
 - 2) loving service to people

WE MUST **WALK THE TALK**
AND NOT JUST **TALK THE TALK**



Lesson 04 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

• Lesson 04: The Test of Knowing Him

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

- Scripture Text - 1 John 2:3-11

✓ WALKING IN GOD'S LIGHT

- Know That We Know (3-6)

➡ - Old & New Commandments (7-8)

- Light Versus Darkness (9-11)



1 John 2:7 - OBSERVATIONS

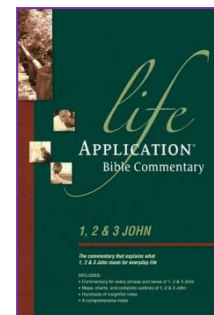
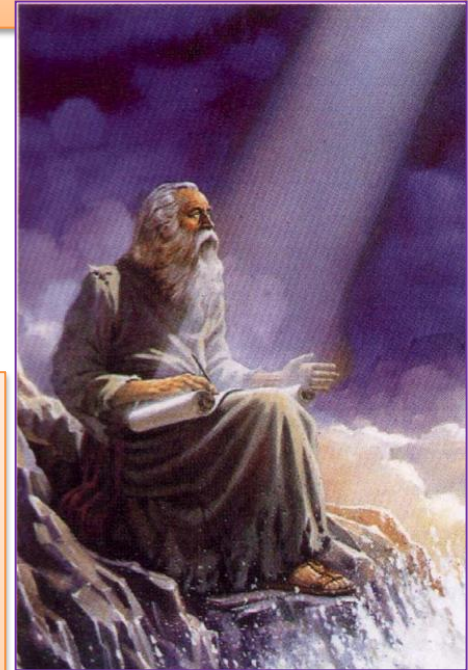
⁷ Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.

- Old Commandment

- The commandment is that we should love one another.

- Mark 12:28-31

²⁸ Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, "Which is the first commandment of all?" ²⁹ Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments *is*: 'Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. ³⁰ And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This *is* the first commandment. ³¹ And the second, like *it*, *is* this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."



1 John 2:7 - OBSERVATIONS

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

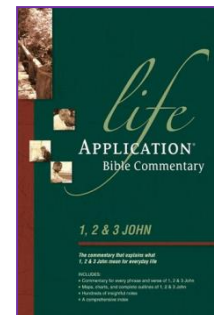
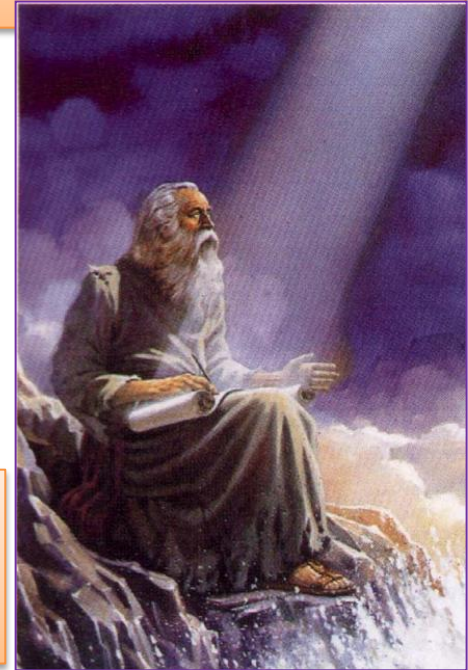
- Old Commandment

- The commandment is that we should love one another.

- Mark 12:28-31

- Deuteronomy 6:4-5 ... Sh'ma

⁴ "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one! ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.



1 John 2:7 - OBSERVATIONS

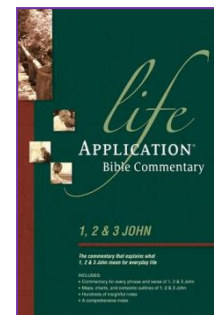
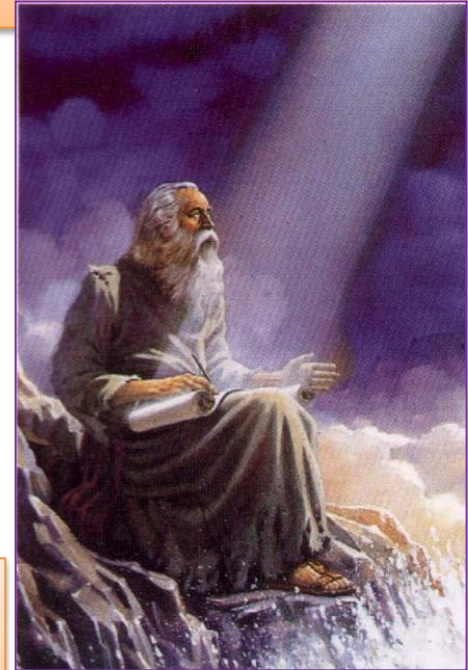
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- Old Commandment

- The commandment is that we should love one another.

- Mark 12:28-31
 - Deuteronomy 6:4-5 ... Sh'ma
 - Leviticus 19:18

¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I *am* the LORD.



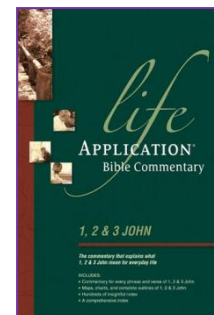
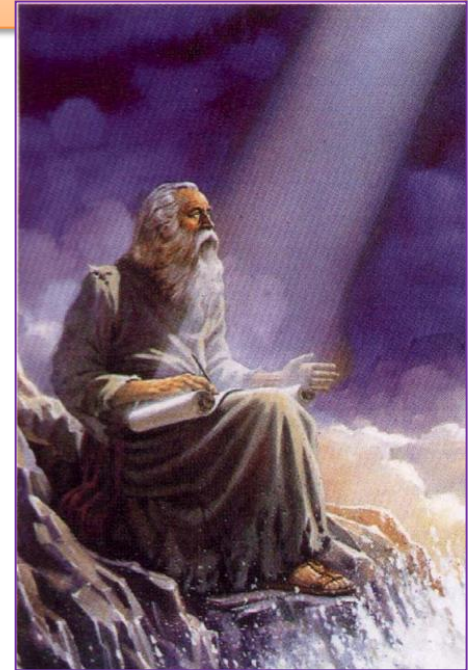
1 John 2:7 - OBSERVATIONS

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

- Old Commandment
 - Jesus gave the commandment to love one another because love would be the believer's mark of distinction:

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

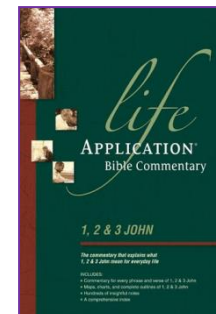
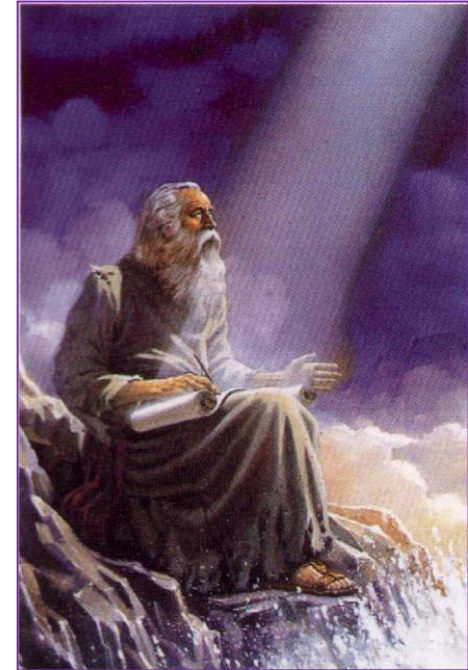
--- John 13:34-35 ... NKJV



1 John 2:8 - OBSERVATIONS

⁸ Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.

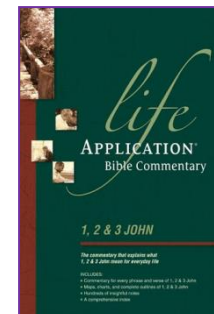
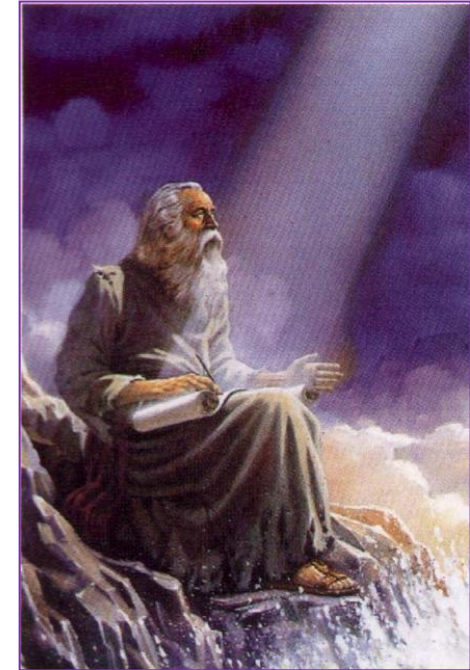
- New Commandment
 - The truth that the command is new is seen in Him and You.
 - The command to love first reached its truest and fullest expression in the life of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - He demonstrated true love by coming into the world and giving His life for all who believe.
 - The command should also be true in “you” ... in all who claim to follow Christ



1 John 2:8 - OBSERVATIONS

⁸ Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.

- True Light
 - True light is already shining
 - The darkness **is** passing away
 - The conflict between light and darkness is a foregone conclusion.
 - The conflict continues
 - But the “true light” experienced and shared by Believers **is** growing.



Lesson 04 - Outline

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• Lesson 04: The Test of Knowing Him


✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

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✓ WALKING IN GOD'S LIGHT

- Know That We Know (3-6)

- Old & New Commandments (7-8)

 - Light Versus Darkness (9-11)

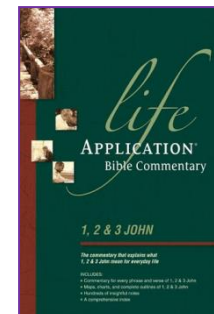
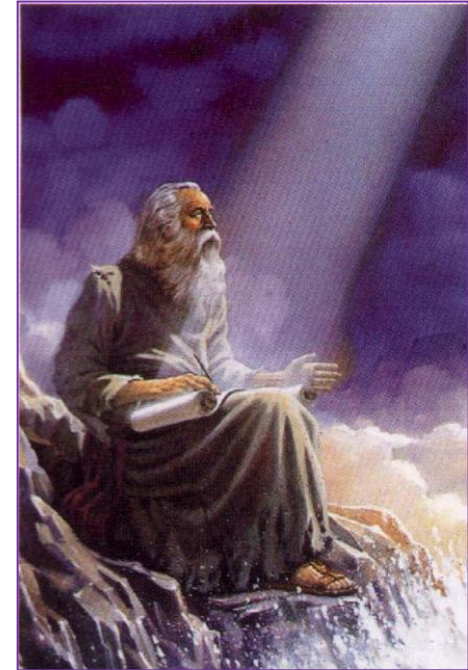


1 John 2:9 - OBSERVATIONS

⁹ He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.

- Light Versus Darkness
 - The next few verses highlight the contrast drawn between

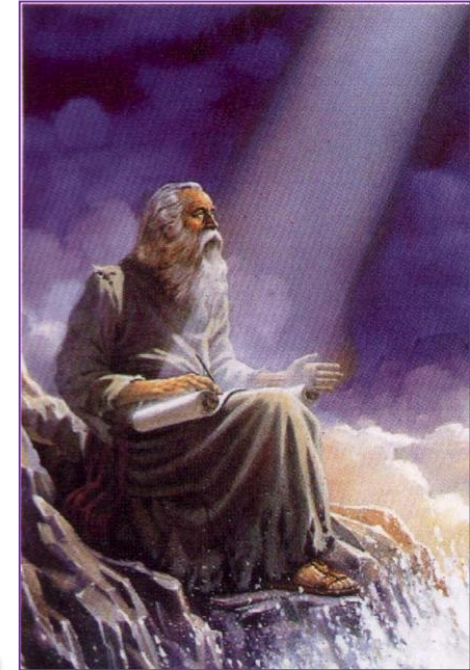
- Light and Darkness
 - Love and Hate
 - God and the World
 - The contrasts cannot exist simultaneously



1 John 2:9 - OBSERVATIONS

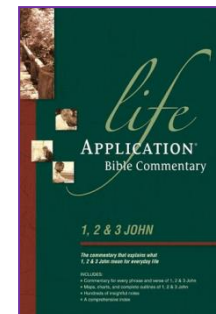
⁹ He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.

- **Light Versus Darkness**
 - This verse teaches that one who claims to be in the light (v 7) should also be filled with love (vv 7-8)
 - IF one makes this claim
WHILE hating a brother
THEN the claim to be in the light is FALSE
 - That person is still in darkness



LIVING IN LOVE IS LIVING IN THE LIGHT

The gospel both illuminates people's minds and warms their hearts to love.



1 John 2:10 - OBSERVATIONS

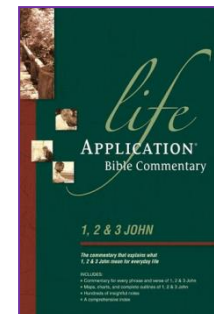
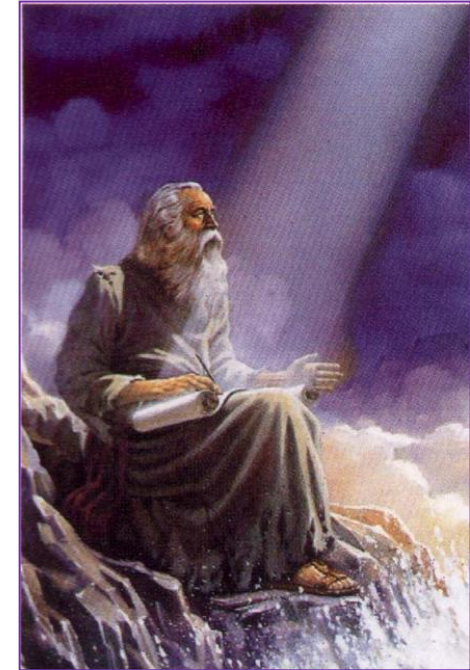
10 He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

- **Abide in the Light ... No Cause for Stumbling**

- This verse is the opposite of v9
- It explains that actions reveal faith

10 He who loves his brother abides in the light

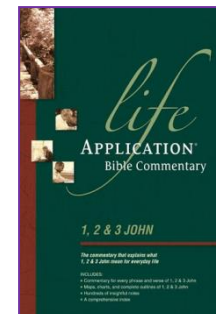
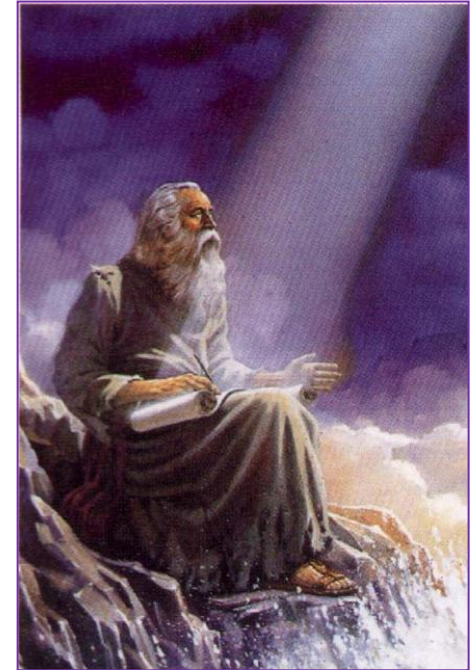
- There is nothing in one who *“abides in the light”*, that will cause stumbling.
- People who claim to be Christians, yet hate fellow believers are not grounded in the truth, as seen by their actions.



1 John 2:11 - OBSERVATIONS

11 But he who 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.

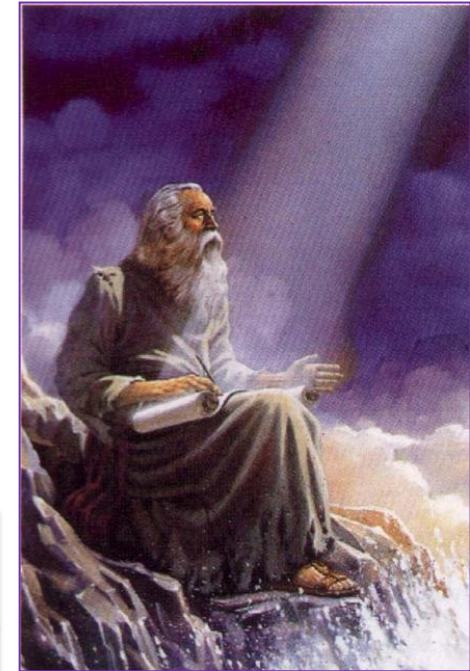
- **He Who Hates ... Walks in Darkness**
 - Believers who hate are in darkness and not light, in sin and not in fellowship with God.
 - They walk in darkness and do not know where they are going.
 - They have lost their spiritual perspective and sense of direction because the darkness has blinded their eyes



1 John 2:11 - OBSERVATIONS

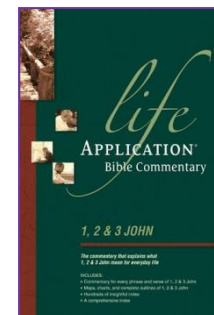
11 But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

- **He Who Hates ... Walks in Darkness**
 - To hate is to choose the darkness and to shut oneself off from the light.
 - To hate is to separate oneself from the presence of God and from the fellowship of other believers



GOD HATES SIN – GOD LOVES SINNERS

God expects us to have the same attitude.



Jesus is Coming Soon!





1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

Lesson 05: Do Not Love the Evil World

Next Week's Lesson

Next Week's Lesson

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

- Lesson 01: Overview ... [1 JOHN]
- Lesson 02: Jesus Christ is God's Son ... [1:1-4]
- Lesson 03: Fellowship ... [1:5-2:2]
- Lesson 04: The Test of Knowing Him ... [2:3-11]
- Lesson 05: Do Not Love the Evil World ... [2:12-17]
- Lesson 06: Antichrists Warning ... [2:18-27]
- Lesson 07: Children of God ... [2:2-3:9]
- Lesson 08: The Imperative of Love ... [3:10-23]
- Lesson 09: Spirit of Truth ... [3:24-4:6]
- Lesson 10: The Consummation of Love ... [4:7-19]
- Lesson 11: Obedience by Faith ... [4:20-5:5]
- Lesson 12: God's Witness ... [5:6-13]
- Lesson 13: Knowing the Truth ... [5:14-21]

