



1st John

God is Light, Love and Life

Lesson 11

Obedience by Faith

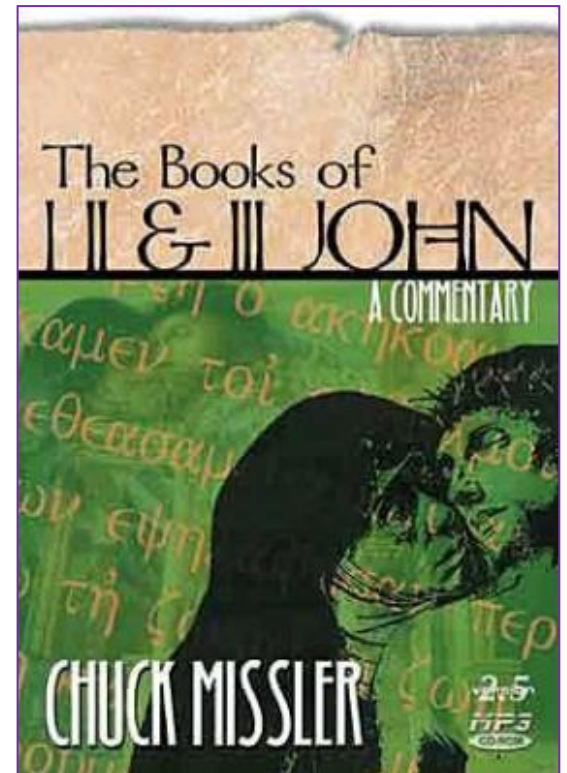
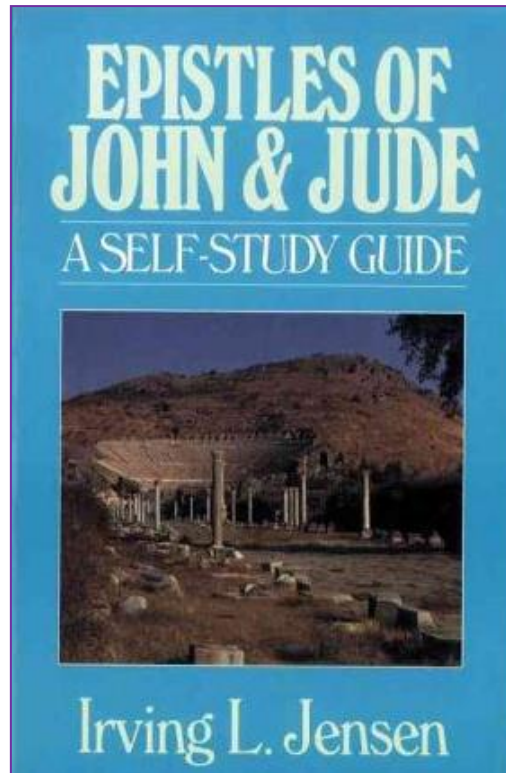
1st John 4:20-5:5

Philip Giorgio

Sojourners Sunday School Class

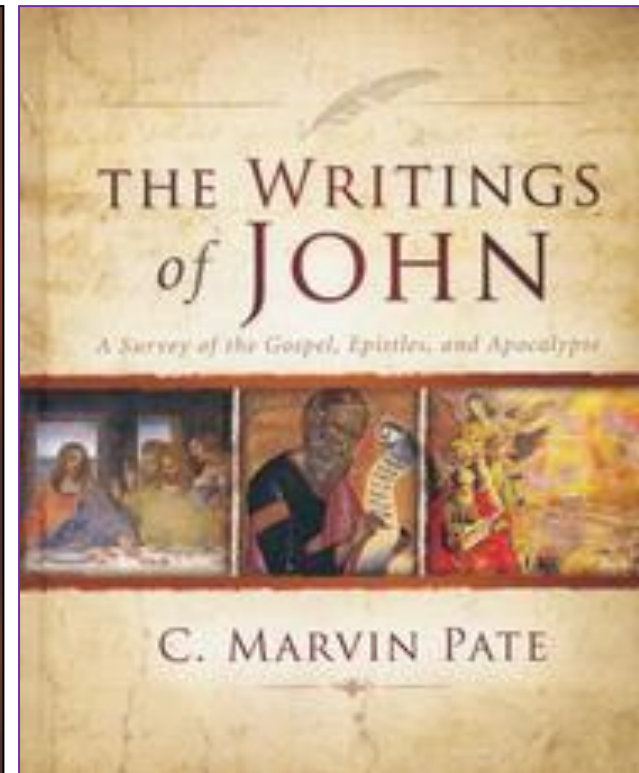
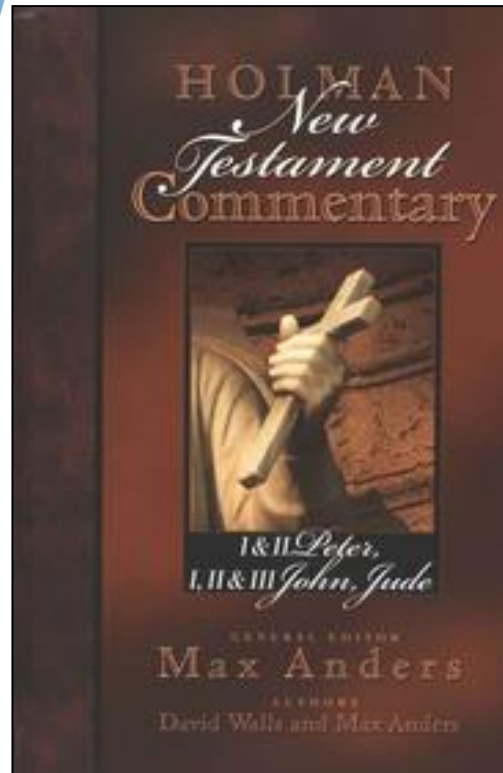


References



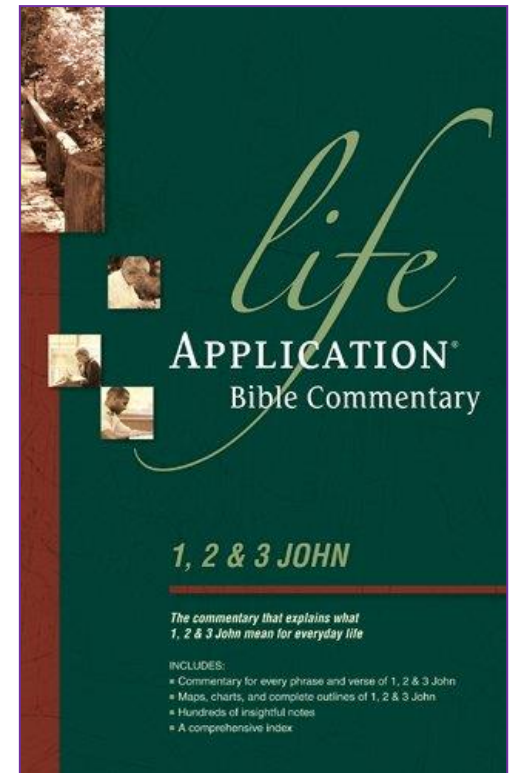
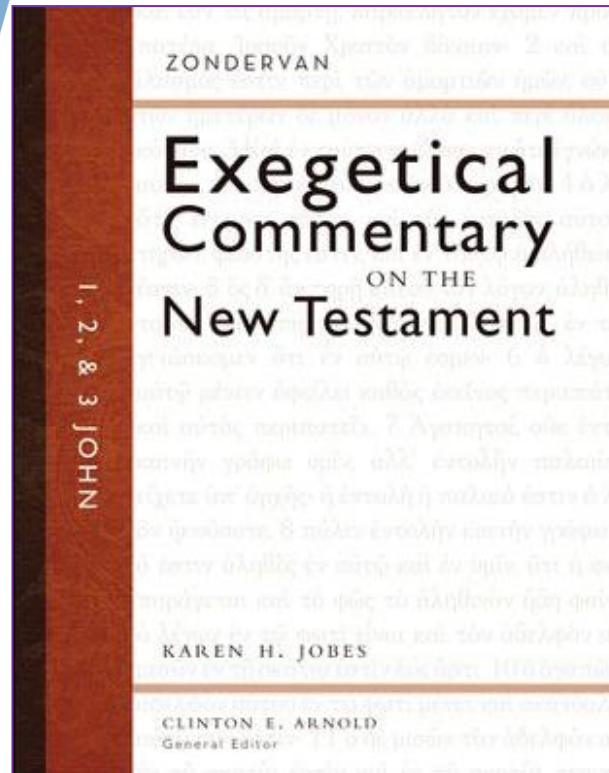


References



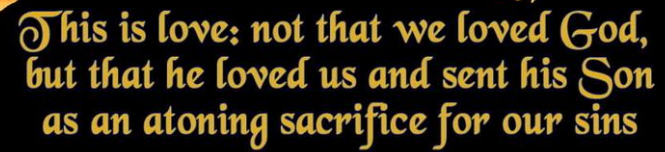


References





1, 2 & 3 JOHN



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]

Course Outline - Lessons

■ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

- Lesson 01: Overview ... [1 JOHN]
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Lesson Outline

Lesson 11 - Outline

■ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

- Lesson 11: Obedience by Faith

- ✓ **SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT**

- Scripture Text - 1 John 4:20 - 5:5

- ✓ **LOVE GOD & HIS COMMANDMENTS**

- Love Your Brother
(4:20-21)

- Love the Children of God
(5:1-3)

- Overcome the World
(5:4-5)





Obedience by Faith

Scriptural Context

Lesson 11 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

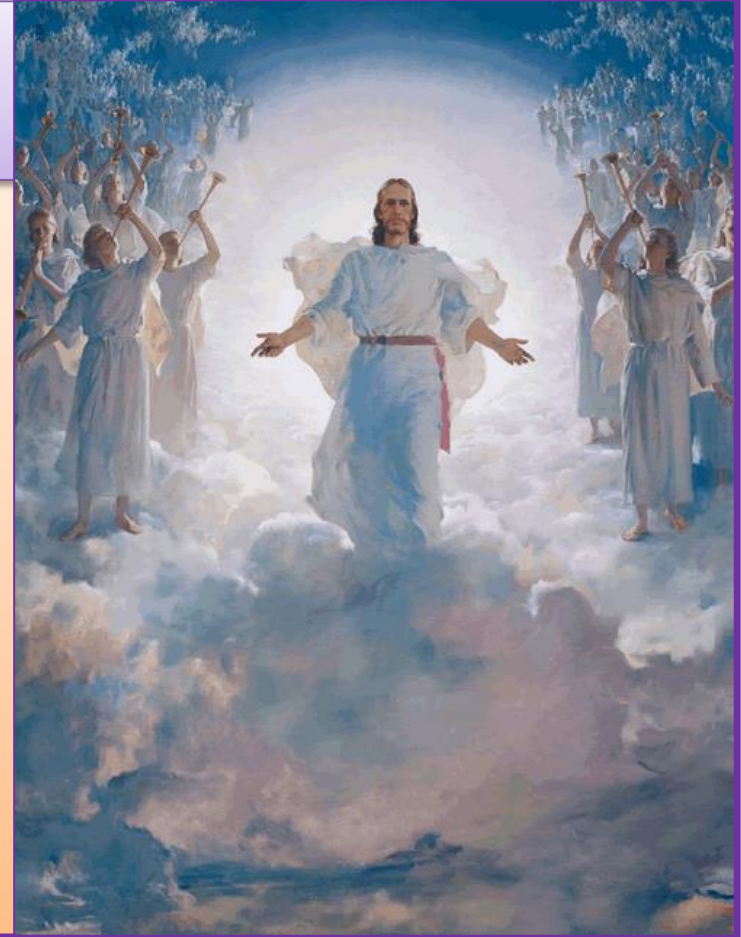
- Lesson 11: Obedience by Faith

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

➡ - Scripture Text - 1 John 4:20 - 5:5

✓ LOVE GOD & HIS COMMANDMENTS

- Love Your Brother
(4:20-21)
- Love the Children of God
(5:1-3)
- Overcome the World
(5:4-5)



Scriptural Text: 1 John 4:20-21

OBEDIENCE BY FAITH

1 JOHN 4:20–21

20 If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? **21** And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.

... 1 John 4:20-21 ...NKJV

Scriptural Text: 1 John 5:1-3

OBEDIENCE BY FAITH

1 JOHN 5:1-3

5 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. **2** By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. **3** For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

... 1 John 5:1-3 ...NKJV



Scriptural Text: 1 John 5:4-5

OBEDIENCE BY FAITH

1 JOHN 5:4-5

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. **5** Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

... 1 John 5:4-5 ...NKJV



Obedience by Faith

Love God & His Commandments

Lesson 11 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

• Lesson 11: Obedience by Faith

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

- Scripture Text - 1 John 4:20 - 5:5

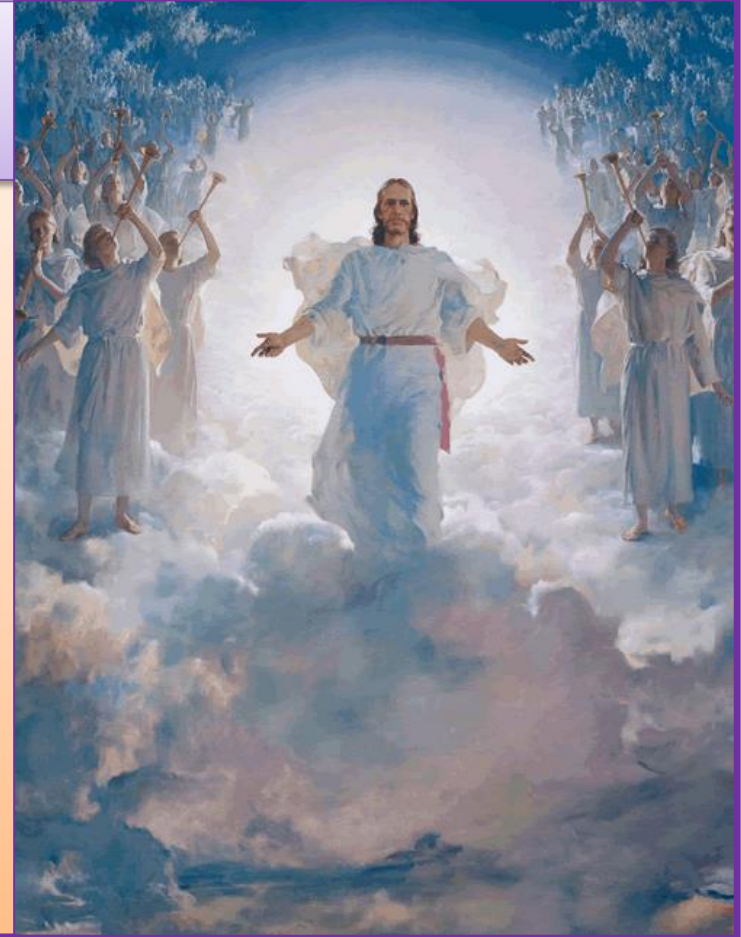
✓ LOVE GOD & HIS COMMANDMENTS



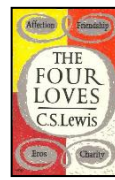
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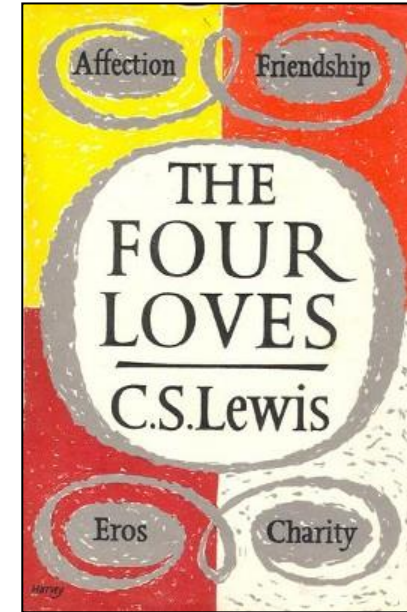
Profile - Four LOVES



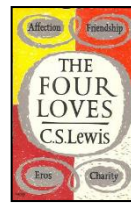
- Four Loves ... C. S. Lewis

- In *English*, the word love is “*overloaded*”
- In *Greek*, there are 4 words for love
- Lewis treats love under four categories based in part on the four Greek words for love:

1. *Storge* - affection
2. *Philia* - friendship
3. *Eros* - romance
4. *Agape* - charity, unconditional



Profile - Four LOVES




| Type | Greek | Description |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| Affection | <i>Storge</i> | fondness through familiarity (<i>a brotherly love</i>), especially between family members or people who have otherwise found themselves together by chance. It is described as the most natural, emotive, and widely diffused of loves: natural in that it is present without coercion; emotive because it is the result of fondness due to familiarity; and most widely diffused because it pays the least attention to those characteristics deemed "valuable" or worthy of love and, as a result, is able to transcend most discriminating factors. |
| Friendship | <i>Philia</i> | the love between friends. Friendship is the strong bond existing between people who share common interest or activity. Lewis immediately differentiates Friendship Love from the other Loves. He describes friendship as, "the least biological, organic, instinctive, gregarious and necessary...the least <i>natural</i> of loves" - our species does not need friendship in order to reproduce - but to the classical and medieval worlds the more profound precisely because it is freely chosen. To the Ancients, Friendship seemed the happiest and most fully human of all loves; the crown of life and the school of virtue. The modern world, in comparison, ignores it". |
| Romance | <i>Eros</i> | love in the sense of 'being in love' or 'loving' someone, as opposed to the raw sexuality of what he called Venus: the illustration Lewis uses was the distinction between 'wanting a woman' and wanting one particular woman - something that matched his (classical) view of man as a rational animal, a composite both of reasoning angel and instinctual alley-cat. |
| Unconditional | <i>Agape</i> | the love that brings forth caring regardless of the circumstance. Lewis recognizes this as the greatest of loves, and sees it as a specifically Christian virtue. Lewis did not actually use the word <i>agape</i> although later commentators did. |

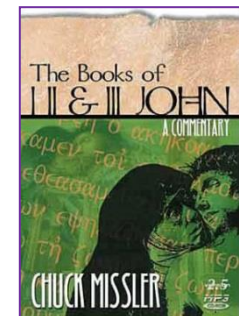
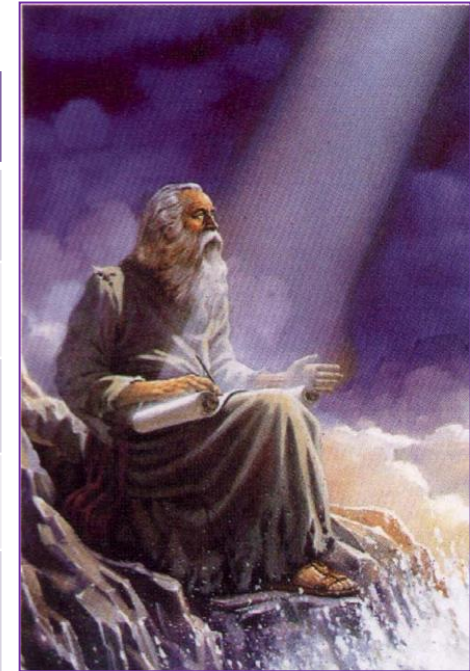
1 John 4:20 - OBSERVATIONS

20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

• 5th of the Six Lies/Liars in 1st John

SIX LIES

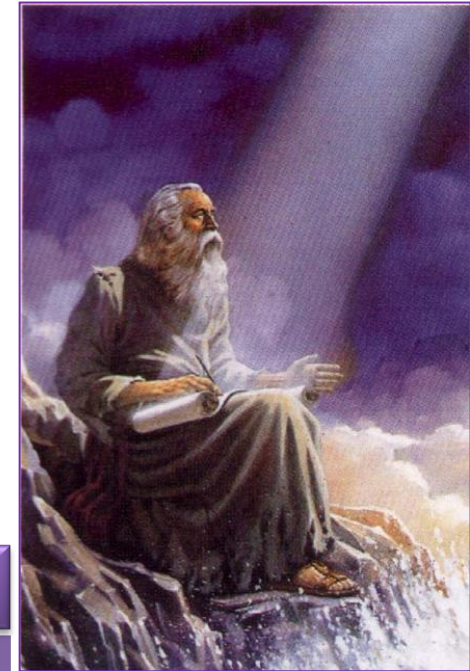
| | |
|---|-------------|
| 1) If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. | 1 John 1:6 |
| 2) If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar , and His word is not in us. | 1 John 1:10 |
| 3) He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar , and the truth is not in him. | 1 John 2:4 |
| 4) Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. | 1 John 2:22 |
|  5) If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar ; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? | 1 John 4:20 |
| 6) He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar , because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. | 1 John 5:10 |



1 John 4:20 - OBSERVATIONS

20 If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

- **Love and Hate Cannot Coexist**
 - You cannot say you love God and simultaneously hate your brother
 - This makes you a liar - you do not truly love God ... You are self-deceived
 - Your horizontal relationships affect your vertical relationship *and vice versa*



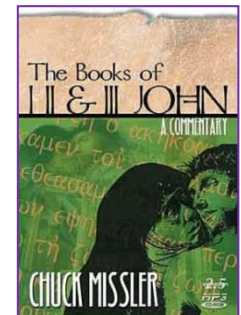
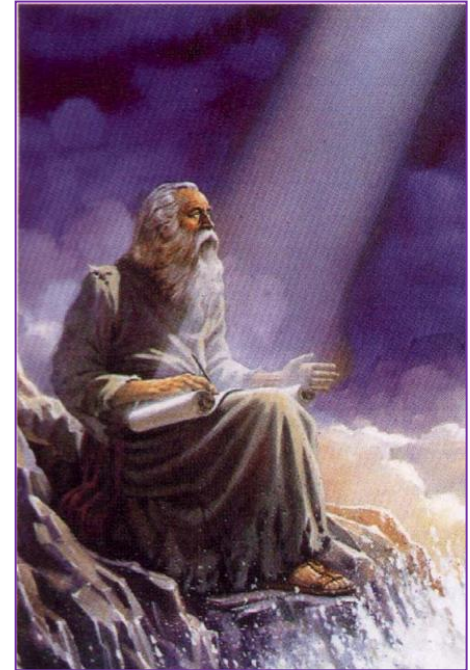
HATES HIS BROTHER

| VERSE | TEXT |
|-------------|---|
| 1 John 2:11 | 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 3:15 | Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. |
| 1 John 4:20 | If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; ... |

1 John 4:21 - OBSERVATIONS

²¹ And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.

- You must love your brother
 - IF we love God **THEN** we will keep His commandment - one of his commandments is to love one another
 - Notice the imperative “must”
 - Loving your Brother is not an option - It is a command



Lesson 11 - Outline

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• Lesson 11: Obedience by Faith

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

- Scripture Text - 1 John 4:20 - 5:5

✓ LOVE GOD & HIS COMMANDMENTS

- Love Your Brother
(4:20-21)

➡ - Love the Children of God
(5:1-3)

- Overcome the World
(5:4-5)



1 John 5:1 - OBSERVATIONS

5 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

- **Jesus is the Christ**

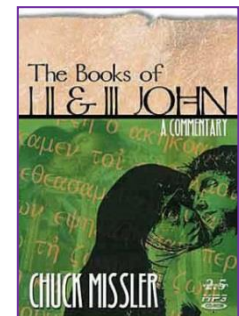
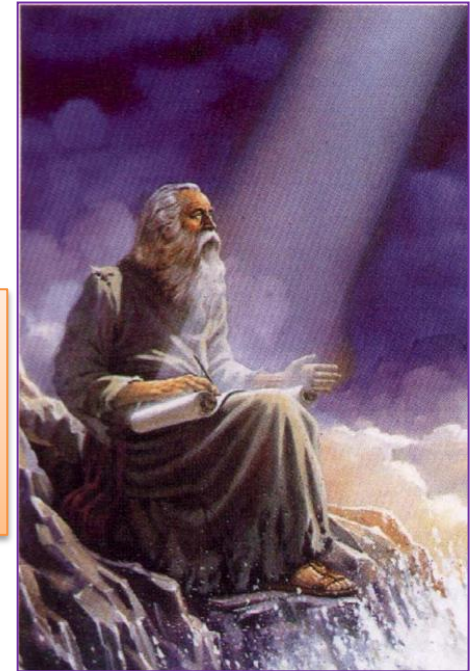
- Christ is a title - *Greek for* “anointed one of God”
- Whoever believes Jesus is the Christ is born of God
- Born of God - you are a child of God (John 1:10-13)

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. ¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: ¹³ who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

EVERYONE who loves Him who begot
ALSO loves him who is begotten of Him

Believer

God



1 John 5:2 - OBSERVATIONS

² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.

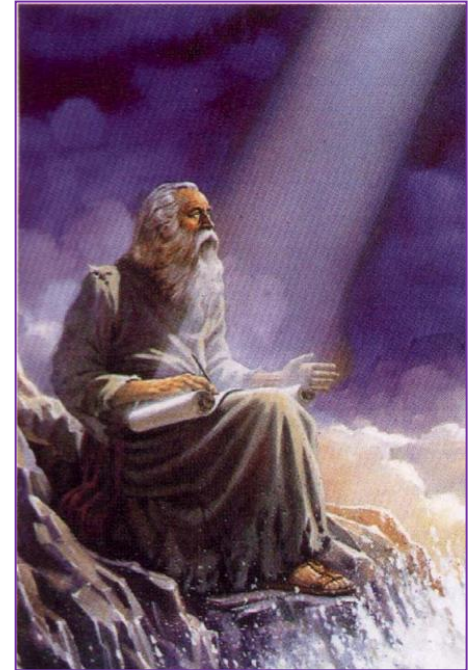
- A test for knowing if we love fellow believers
 - Believers - children of God

IF we love God **AND** keep His commandments
THEN we know we love the children of God

"IF" Clause is our Vertical
Relationship with God

"THEN" Clause is our Horizontal
Relationships with other Believers

DO YOU PASS THIS TEST?



1 John 5:3 - OBSERVATIONS

³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

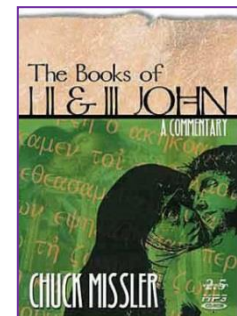
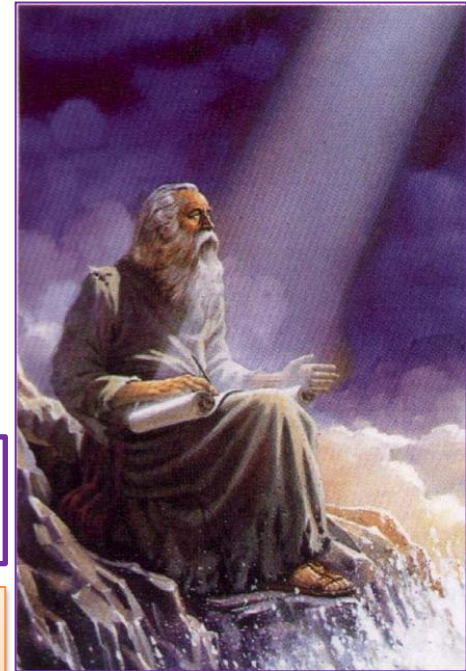
• Love of God

- Your love for God can be summed up in this simple test - **Do you keep His commandments?**
- His commandments are not burdensome
 - This is at variance to what most people think
 - Not always the path of least resistance

IF we rely on the Holy Spirit to guide and empower us
THEN keeping His commands are not burdensome

²⁸ Come to Me, all *you* 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."

--- Matthew 11:28-30 ... NKJV



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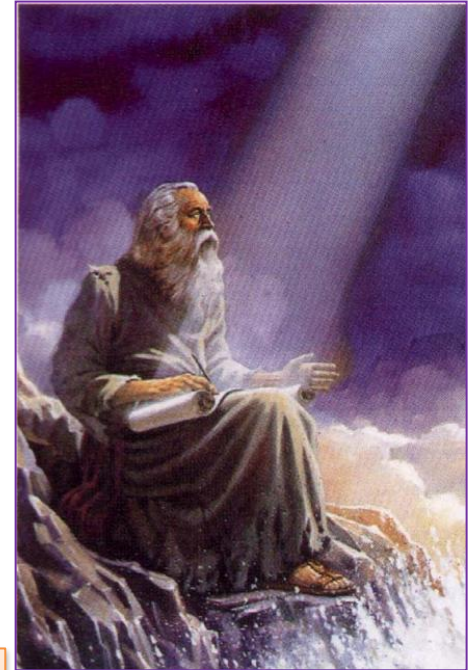
➡ - Overcome the World
(5:4-5)



1 John 5:4 - OBSERVATIONS

⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

- **Whatever is born of God**
 - Born of God - reference to the believer
 - Overcomes - victory over the world
 - the world - all that is opposed to keeping God's commandments or draws us away from God
 - Faith is the victory
 - Faith is not an impersonal force
 - There must be an object to our faith - faith in something
 - Our Faith is in Jesus



¹² For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day. --- 2 Timothy 1:12 ... NKJV

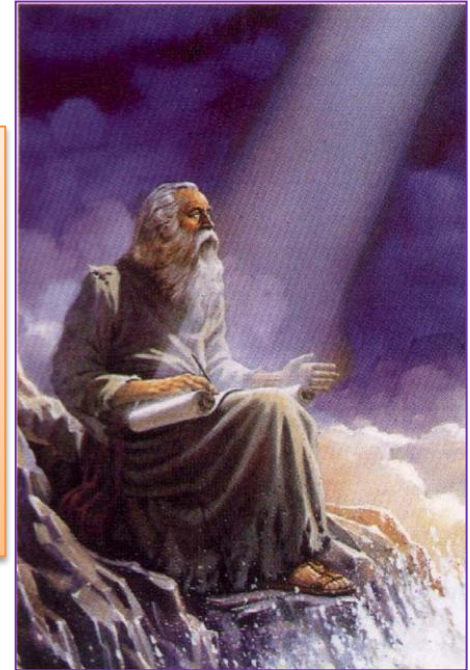
1 John 5:5 - OBSERVATIONS

⁵ Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

- **Who overcomes the world**
 - He who believes that Jesus is the son of God

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

--- Romans 8:37-39 ... NKJV



WELL DONE, GOOD AND
FAITHFUL
SERVANT





1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

Lesson 12: God's Witness

Next Week's Lesson

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