



1st John

God is Light, Love and Life

Lesson 08

The Imperative of Love

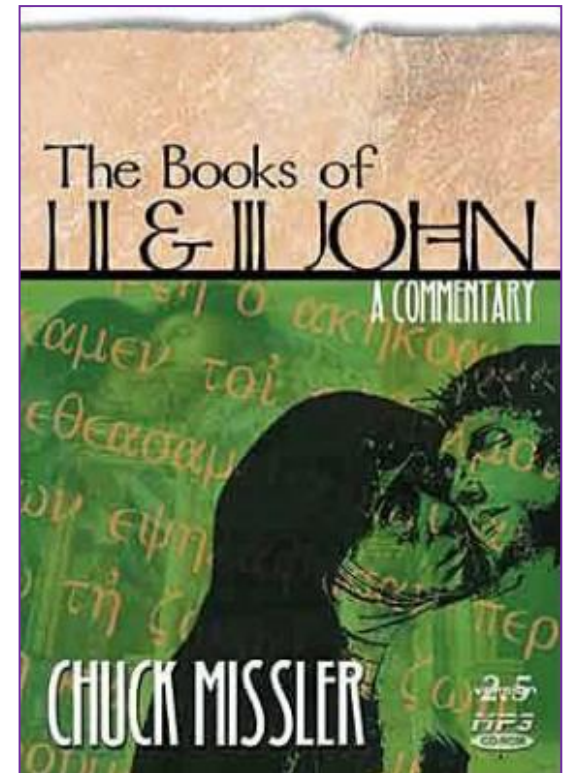
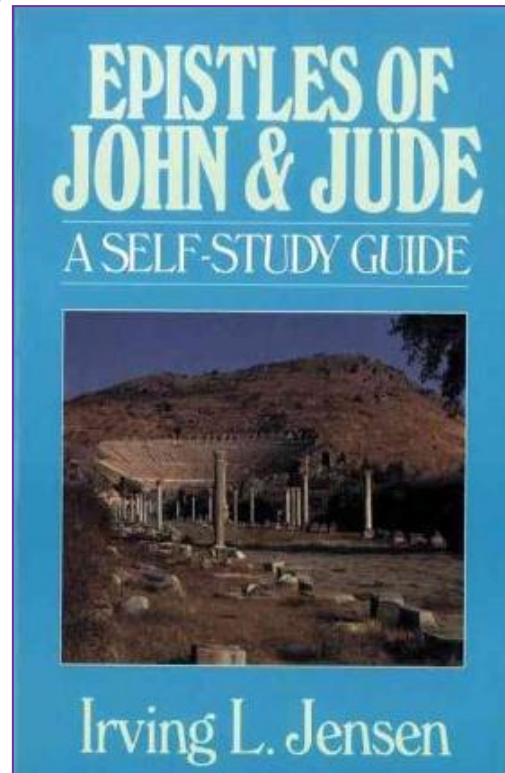
1st John 3:10 - 23

Philip Giorgio

Sojourners Sunday School Class

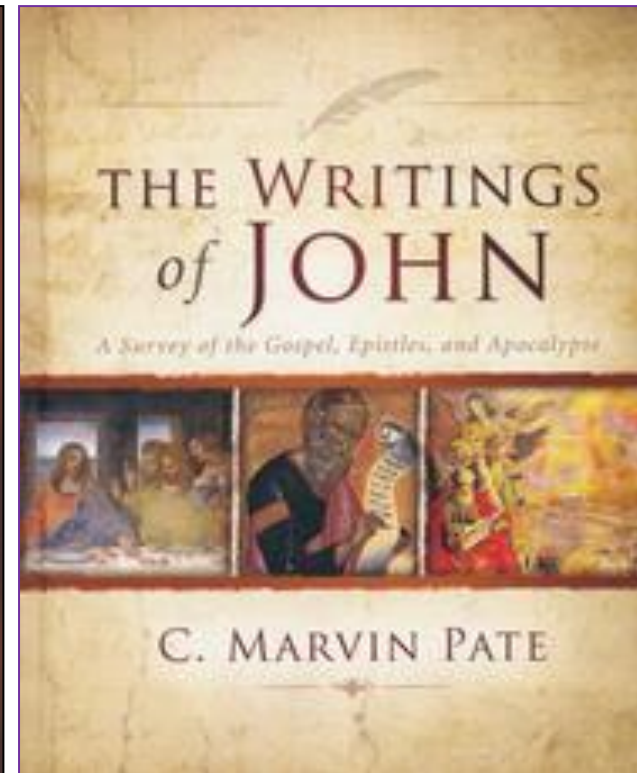
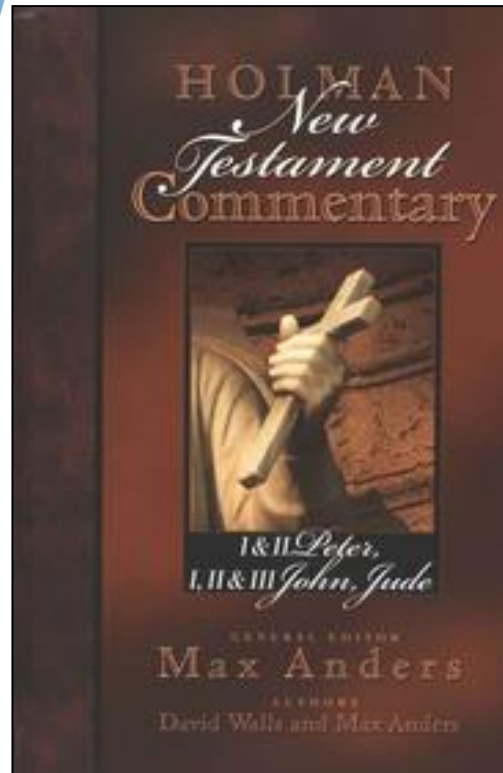


References



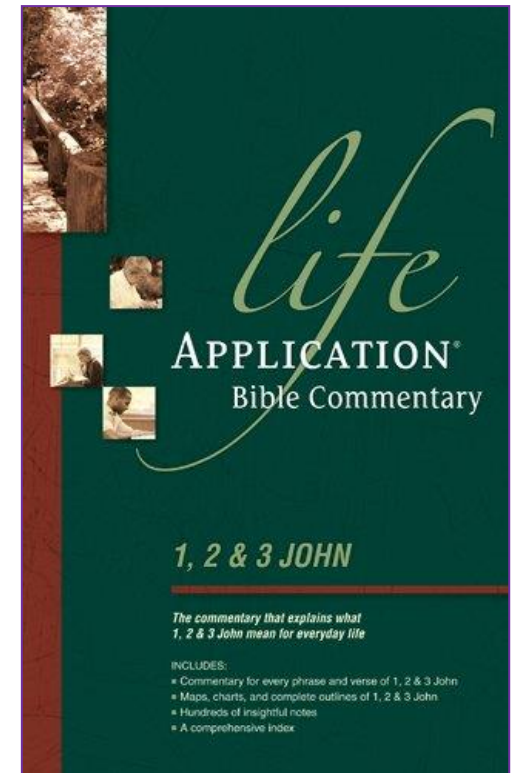
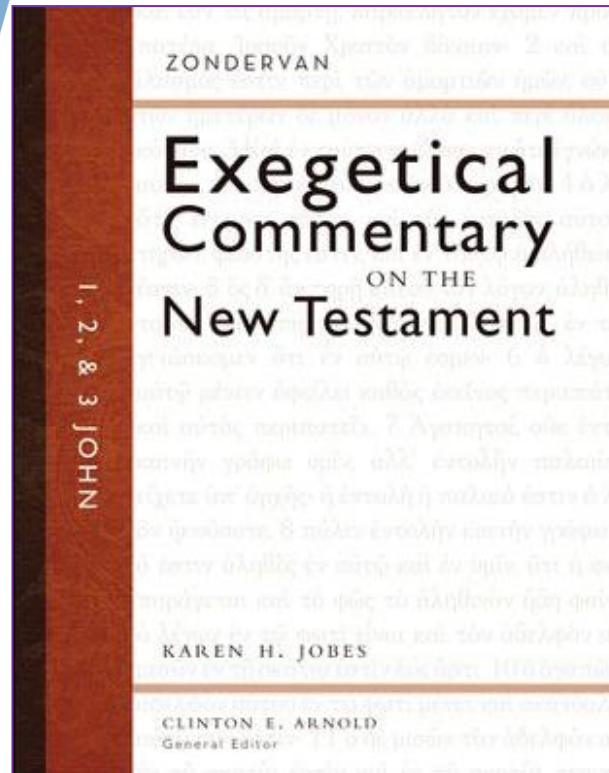


References



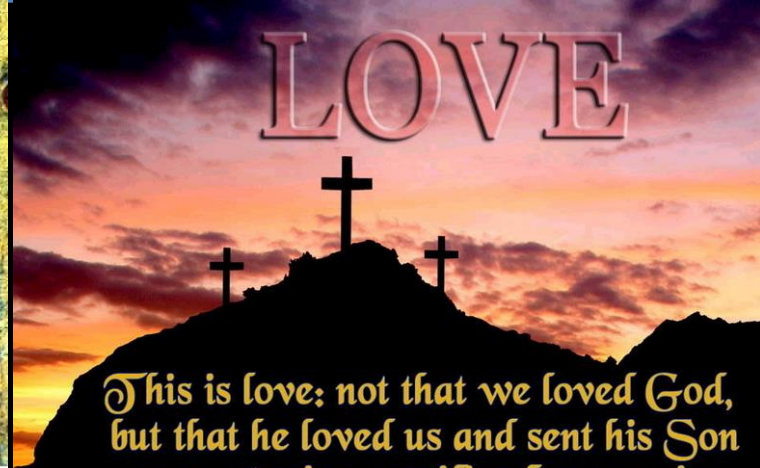


References



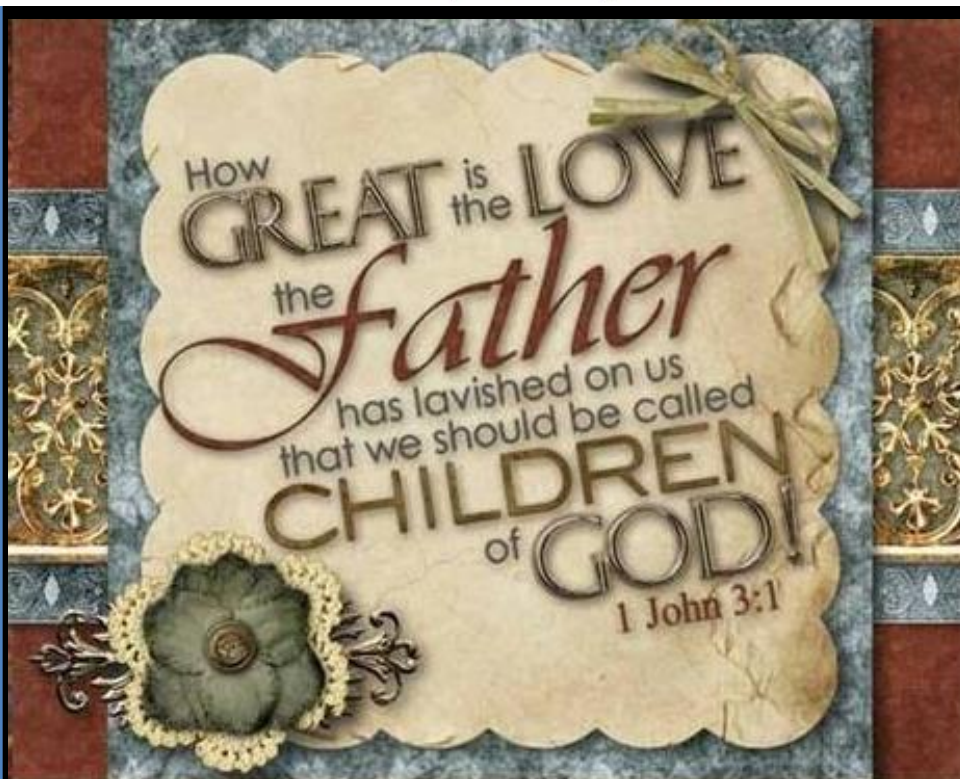


1, 2 & 3 JOHN



**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]

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]



Lesson Outline

Lesson 08 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

- Lesson 08: The Imperative of Love

- ✓ **SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT**

- Scripture Text - 1 John 3:10-23

- ✓ **WE MUST LOVE OTHER CHRISTIANS**

- Love the Brethren
(3:10-15)

- The Outworking of Love
(3:16-23)





The Imperative of Love

Scriptural Context

Lesson 08 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

- Lesson 08: The Imperative of Love

- ✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

➡ - Scripture Text - 1 John 3:10-23

- ✓ WE MUST LOVE OTHER CHRISTIANS

- Love the Brethren
(3:10-15)
- The Outworking of Love
(3:16-23)



Scriptural Text: 1 John 3:10-15

THE IMPERATIVE OF LOVE

1 JOHN 3:10–15

10 In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor *is* he who does not love his brother.

... 1 John 3:10 ...NKJV

Scriptural Text: 1 John 3:10-15

THE IMPERATIVE OF LOVE

1 JOHN 3:10-15

11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, **12** not as Cain *who* was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

... 1 John 3:11-12 ...NKJV



Scriptural Text: 1 John 3:10-15

THE IMPERATIVE OF LOVE

1 JOHN 3:10-15

³ Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you. ¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love *his* brother abides in death. ¹⁵ Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

... 1 John 3:13-15 ...NKJV

Scriptural Text: 1 John 3:16-23

THE OUTWORKING OF LOVE

1 JOHN 3:16 – 23

16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. **17** But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

... 1 John 3:16-17 ...NKJV



Scriptural Text: 1 John 3:16-23

THE OUTWORKING OF LOVE

1 JOHN 3:16 – 23

18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. **19** And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. **20** For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

... 1 John 3:18-20 ...NKJV



Scriptural Text: 1 John 3:16-23

THE OUTWORKING OF LOVE

1 JOHN 3:16 – 23

21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. **22** And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. **23** And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment. ... 1 John 3:21-23 ...NKJV



The Imperative of Love

We Must Love Other Christians

Lesson 08 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

• Lesson 08: The Imperative of Love

✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

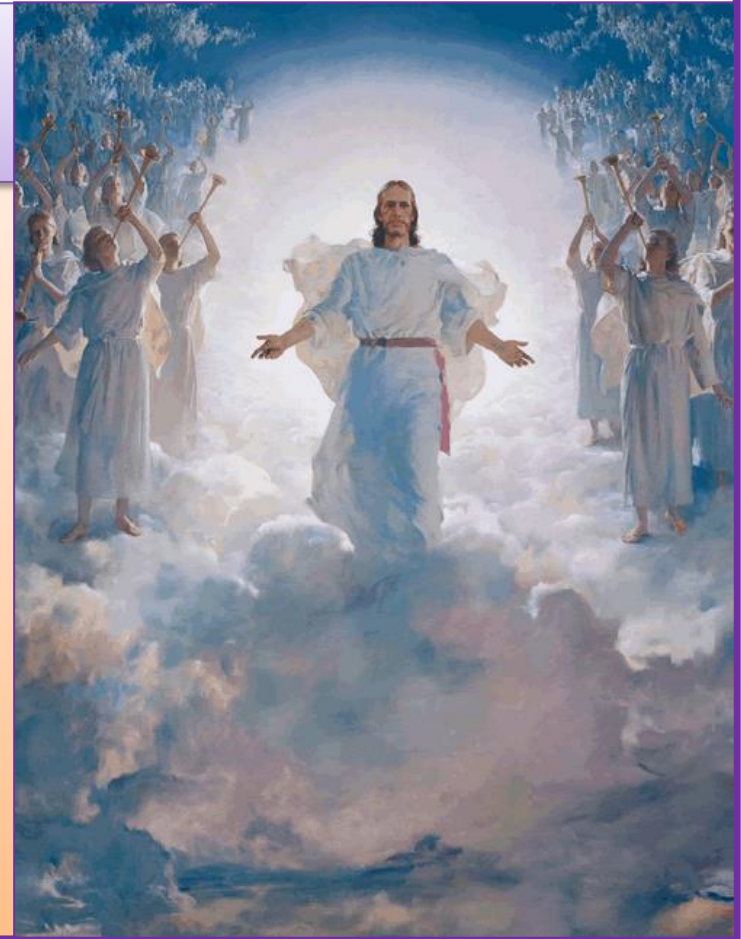
- Scripture Text - 1 John 3:10-23

✓ WE MUST LOVE OTHER CHRISTIANS



- Love the Brethren
(3:10-15)

- The Outworking of Love
(3:16-23)

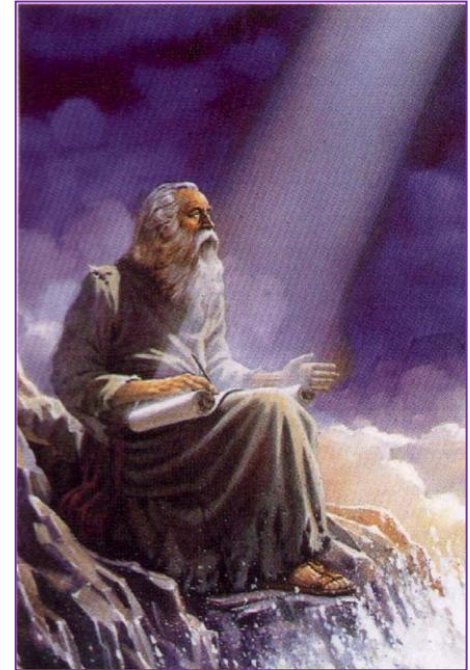


1 John Review

- Fellowship
 - Our Fellowship is in the Light
 - God is Light
 - Vertical and Horizontal Relationships
 - Not just coffee and a donut
 - Investment, Partnership, Commitment

FABLE OF THE CHICKEN AND THE PIG

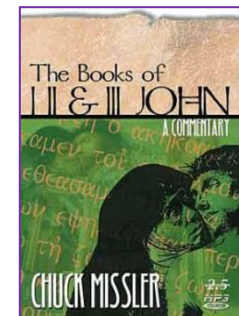
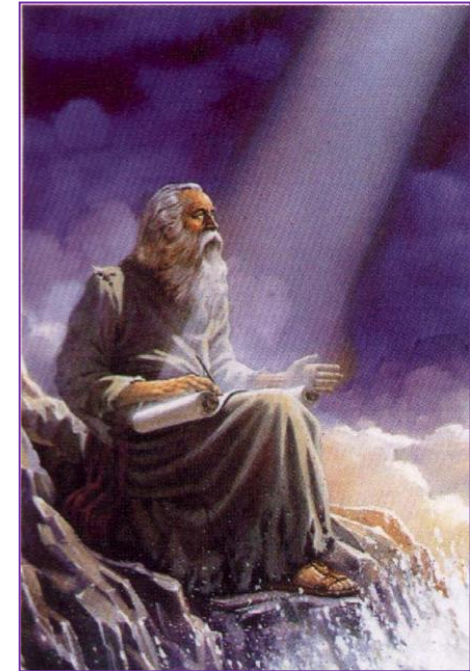
- Love Not the World
- Antichrists are Here
- Children of God



1 John 3:10 - OBSERVATIONS

10 In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor *is* he who does not love his brother.

- In this ... Child of God vs Child of the Devil
 - Yielding to sin is the distinguishing mark of the child of the devil.
 - They profess one thing, but practice another.
 - They do not practice righteousness.
- Children of God must ...
 - Practice righteousness
 - Love his brother/sister
 - The intent of these words is not for us to check others but to examine ourselves.

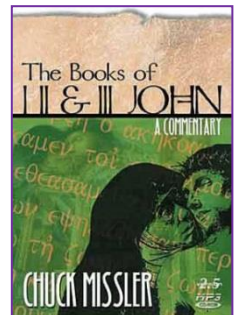
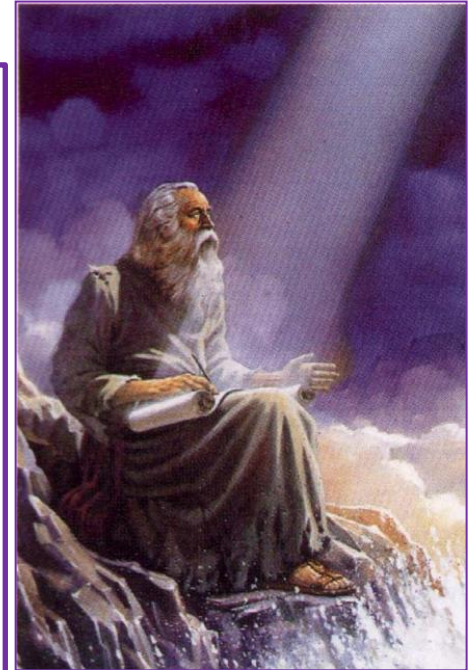


1 John 3:10 - OBSERVATIONS

10 In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor *is* he who does not love his brother.

• Self Examination ... *Some hard hitting questions*

- Do I have the divine nature within me or am I merely pretending to be a Christian?
- Do I cultivate this divine nature by daily Bible reading and prayer?
- Has any unconfessed sin defiled my inner man?
- Am I willing to confess and forsake it?
- Do I allow my old nature to control my thoughts and desires, or does the divine nature rule me?
- When temptation comes, do I “play” with it or do I flee from it?
- Do I immediately yield to the divine nature within me?
- The life that is real is honest with God about these vital issues.



Christian Battlefronts - Battle Strategies

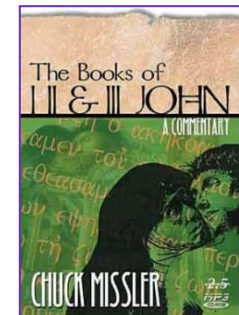
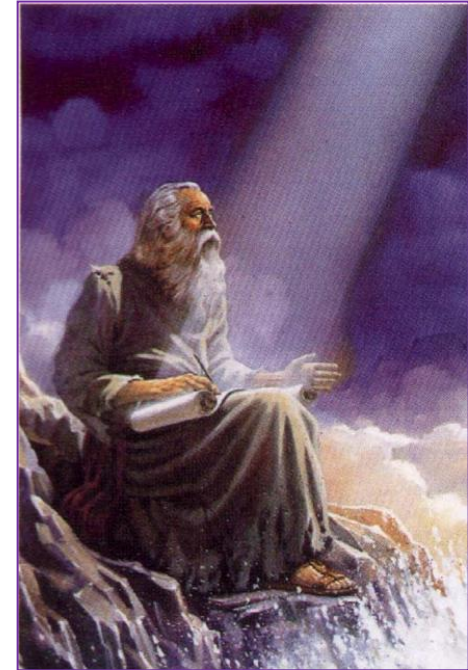
WORLD	FLESH	DEVIL
Faith	Flea	Fight

1 John 3:11-23 - OBSERVATIONS

LEVELS OF RELATIONSHIP



LEVEL	RELATIONSHIP	REFERENCE
1	Murder	1 John 3:11-12
2	Hatred	1 John 3:13-15
3	Indifference	1 John 3:16-17
4	Christian Compassion	1 John 3:18-23



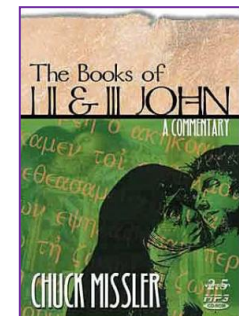
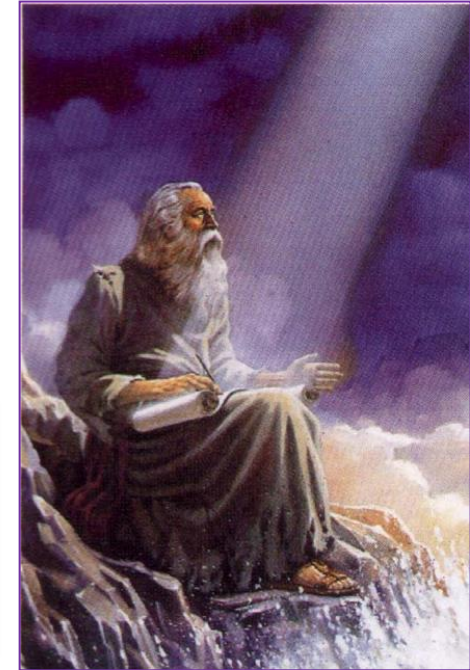
1 John 3:11 - OBSERVATIONS

¹¹ For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,

- The Message

- **WHEN:** Heard from the beginning
- **WHAT:** Love one another
- **WHO:** Source of the message ... Jesus
 - John 13:34-35

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."

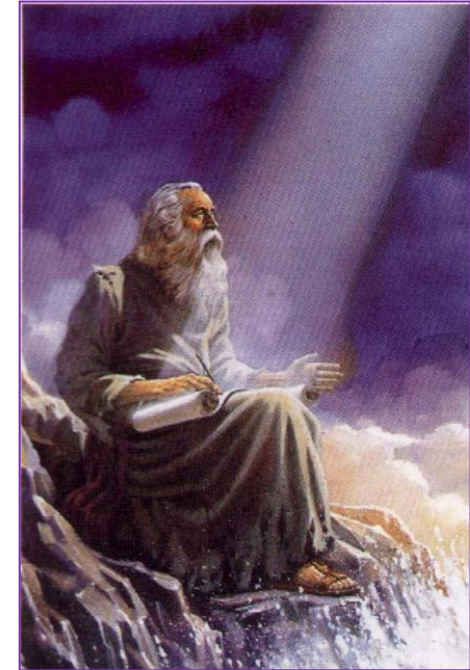


1 John 3:11 - OBSERVATIONS

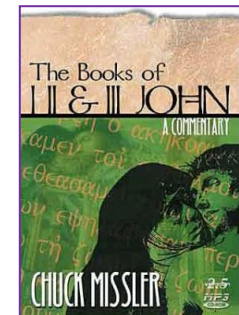
11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,

- **The Message**

- **WHEN:** Heard from the beginning
- **WHAT:** Love one another
- **WHO:** Source of the message ... Jesus
 - John 13:34-35
 - John 15:11-17



11 "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full. **12** This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. **14** You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. **15** No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. **16** You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you. **17** These things I command you, that you love one another.

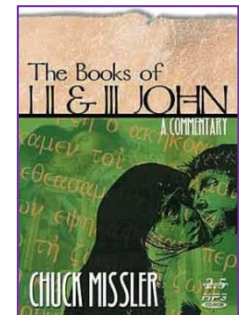
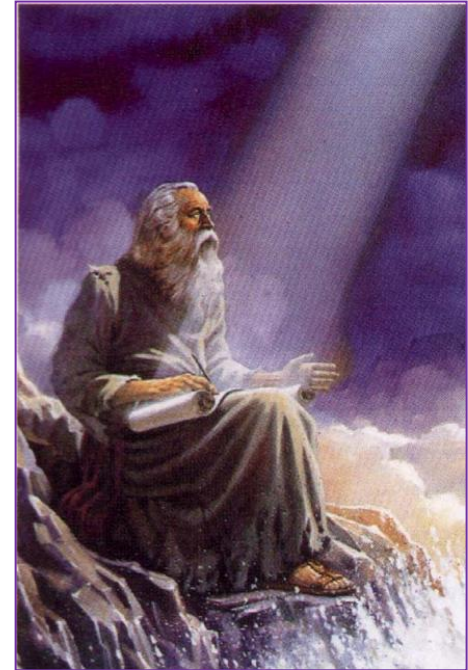


1 John 3:12 - OBSERVATIONS

¹² not as Cain *who* was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

• Murder - the Cain Example

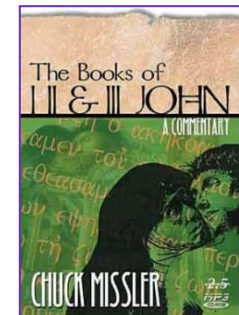
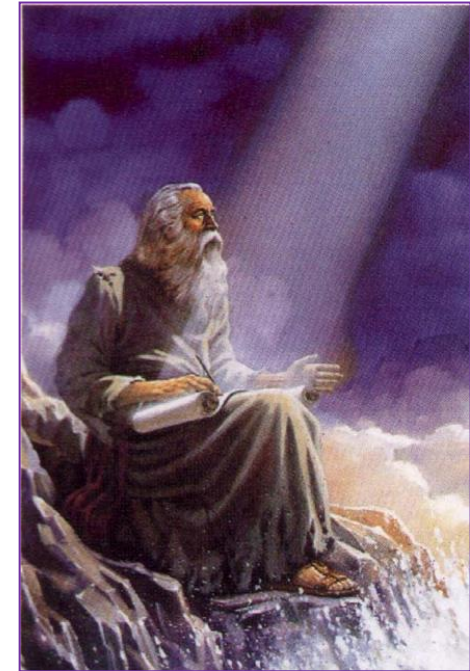
- Murder is the lowest level; it is the level on which Satan himself exists ... (John 8:44).
- Cain is also an example ... (Genesis 4:1-16).
 - Cain is not presented as an atheist;
 - Cain is presented as a worshiper.
 - Children of the devil masquerade as true believers:
 - They attend religious gatherings;
 - They even bring offerings.
 - These are not valid proofs that a person is born of God.
 - God had given definite instructions concerning how He was to be worshiped.
 - Cain decided to do it his own way.
 - Satan is always interested in turning people away from the revealed will of God ... (Genesis 3:1)



1 John 3:11-23 - OBSERVATIONS

LEVELS OF RELATIONSHIP

LEVEL	RELATIONSHIP	REFERENCE
1	Murder	1 John 3:11-12
2	Hatred	1 John 3:13-15
3	Indifference	1 John 3:16-17
4	Christian Compassion	1 John 3:18-23

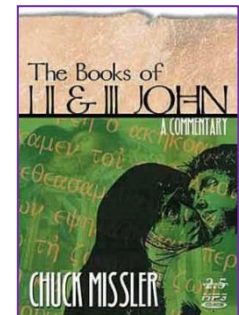
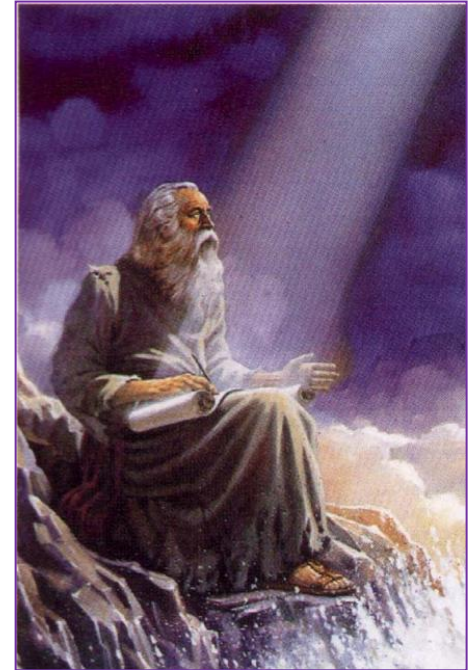


1 John 3:13 - OBSERVATIONS

¹³ Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you.

• The World Hates You

- The World hates Christ for the same reason Cain hated Abel:
 - Christ reveals the world's sin and its true nature; then they must either repent or destroy the messenger ([John 15:18-25](#)).
- Satan is the prince of this world and controls it through murder and lies.
- Like Cain, the people of the world try to cover up their true nature with religious life.
 - Religion is but a fig leaf to man.
 - Relationship with God provides animal skin coverings - shedding of blood for remission of sin.



1 John 3:14 - OBSERVATIONS

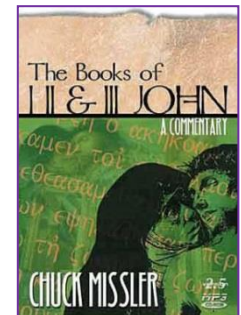
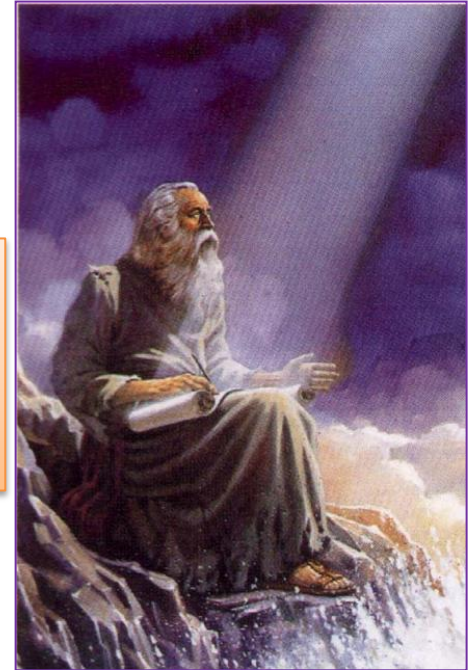
¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love *his* brother abides in death.

- Passed from death to life
 - **BECAUSE:** we love the brethren
 - Delivered ... [Colossians 1:13-14](#)

¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

- He who does not love his brother
 - Abides in death ... [John 3:16-18](#)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. ¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.



1 John 3:15 - OBSERVATIONS

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

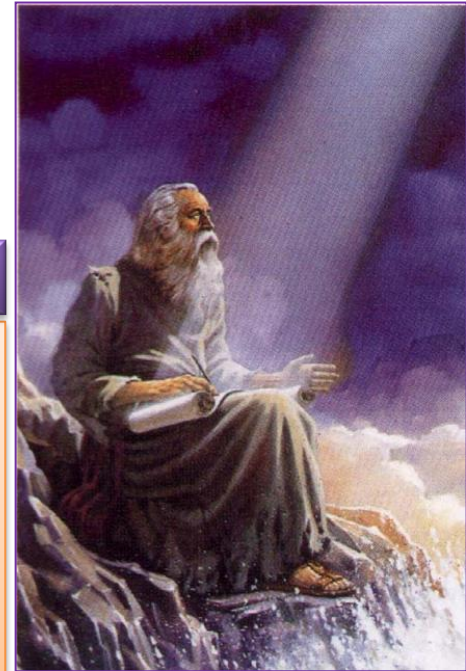
• Hate

- To a Christian, hatred is the same as murder

Matthew 5:21-22 [*Sermon on the Mount*]

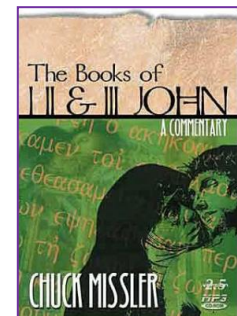
MURDER BEGINS IN THE HEART

21 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' **22** But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.



RACA

vain, empty, worthless, only found in Matt. 5:22. The Jews used it as a word of contempt. It is derived from a root meaning "to spit." Easton's 1897 Bible Dictionary



Lesson 08 - Outline

▪ 1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

• Lesson 08: The Imperative of Love

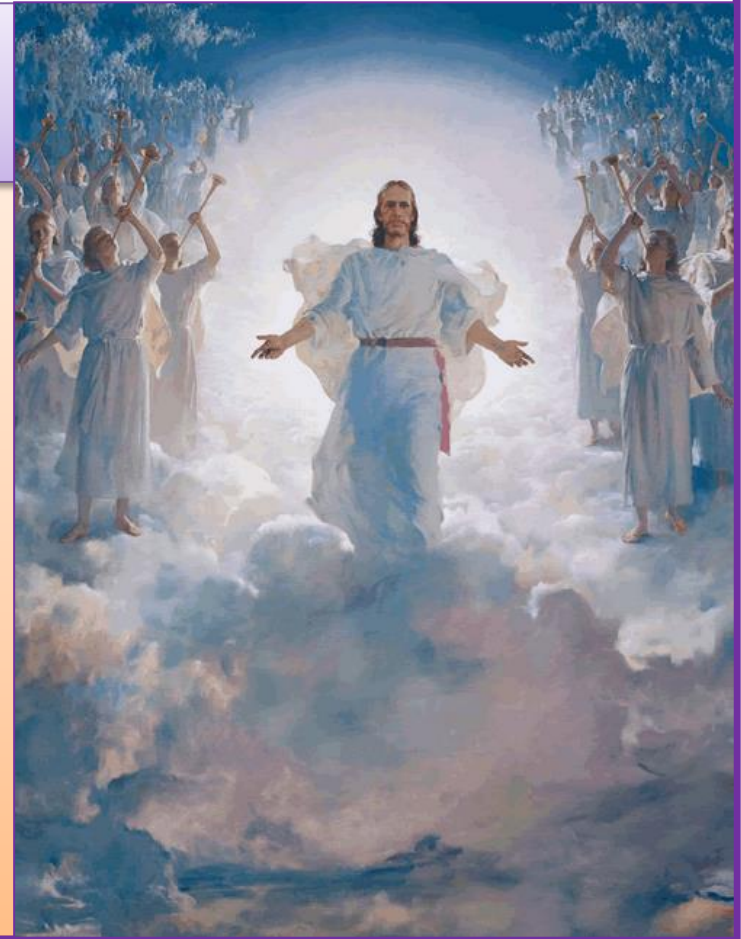
✓ SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

- Scripture Text - 1 John 3:10-23

✓ WE MUST LOVE OTHER CHRISTIANS

- Love the Brethren
(3:10-15)

➡ - The Outworking of Love
(3:16-23)



1 John 3:16 - OBSERVATIONS

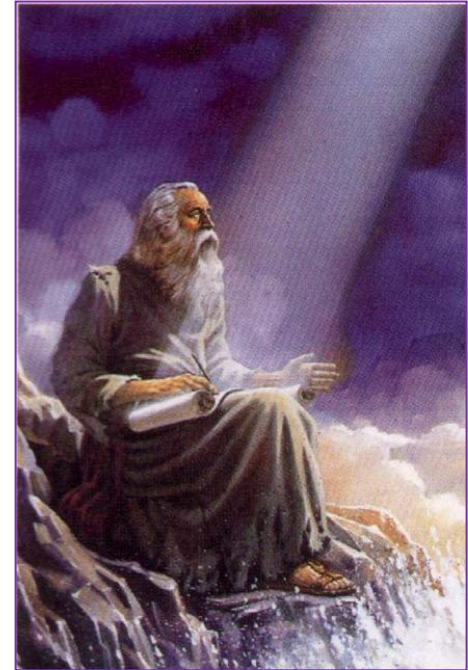
¹⁶ By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

- By this we know love
 - **HOW:** Because Jesus died for us - *our example*
 - **RESPONSE:** Willing to die for the brethren
- Lay down our lives for the brethren
 - Similar language ...

HUSBANDS LOVE YOUR WIVES

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

-- Ephesians 5:25-27 ... NKJV

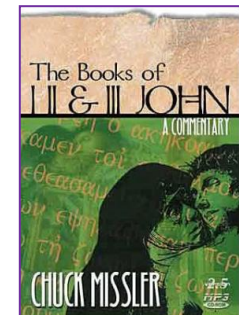
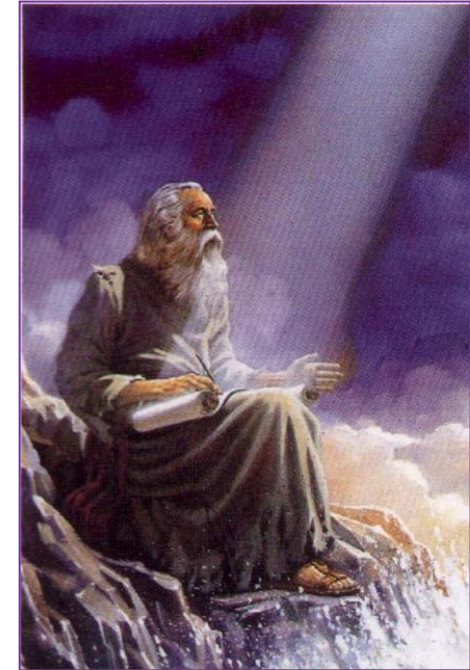


1 John 3:16 - OBSERVATIONS

¹⁶ By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

• Love in Action

- Failure to do evil is not enough.
- Love involves positive actions.
... [Isaiah 1:16-17](#)
- Jesus didn't just talk about His love;
- Jesus died to prove it.
... [\(Romans 5:6-10\)](#).
- Jesus was not a martyr;
- Jesus willingly laid down His life.
... [\(John 10:11-18; 15:13\)](#).
- Self-preservation is the first law of physical life;
- Self-sacrifice is the first law of spiritual life.

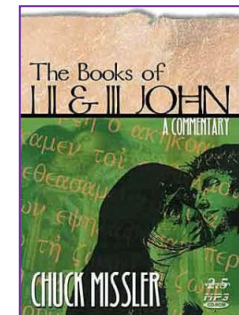
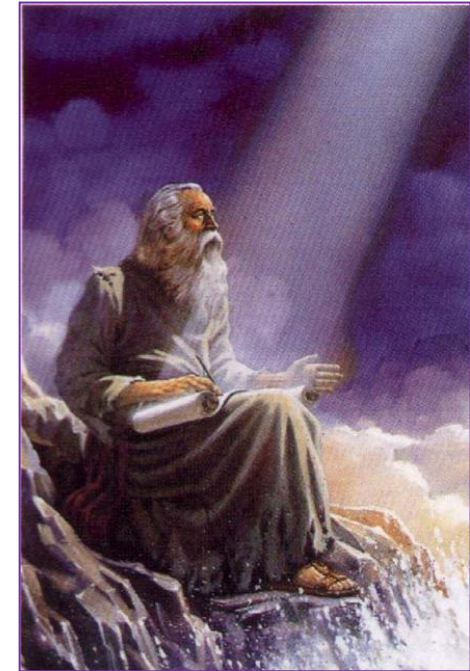


1 John 3:17 - OBSERVATIONS

17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

- **His brother**

- John turns from “the brethren” in v.16 to the singular (*and specific*) “his brother” in v.17.
- Personal and active... *Who is “his brother”?*
... [Luke 10:15-37](#) ... *Good Samaritan*
- Ignoring a need can be sin;
 - indifference to needs.
... [James 2:14-17](#) ... *Faith without works is dead*
 - One of the benefits of stewardship is the ability to meet the needs of others
... [Galatians 6:2](#) ... *Bear one another's burdens*



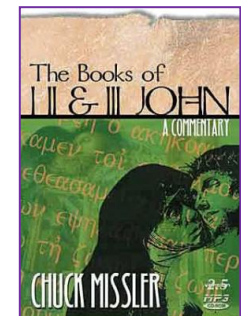
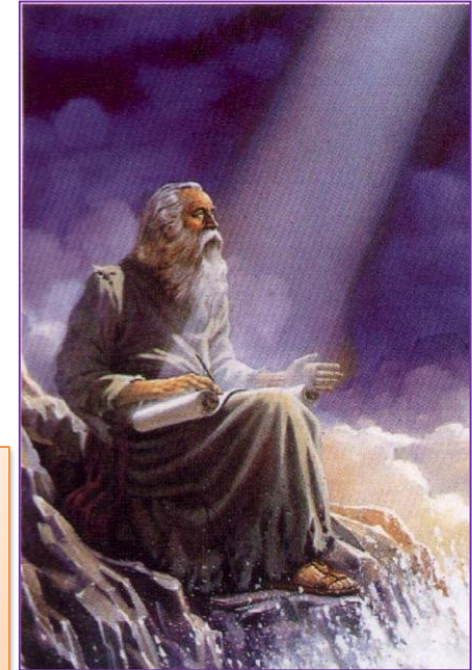
1 John 3:18 - OBSERVATIONS

18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

- Talk is Cheap
 - Do not just love with your lips
 - Don't just talk the talk - walk the walk
 - Love in ..
 - Deed - action - *do something tangible*
 - Truth - right attitude - *as God's ambassador*

14 What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? **15** If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, **16** and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what *does it* profit? **17** Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

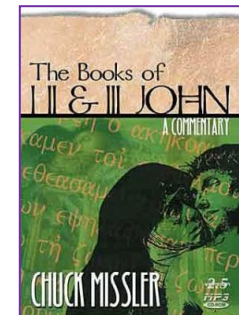
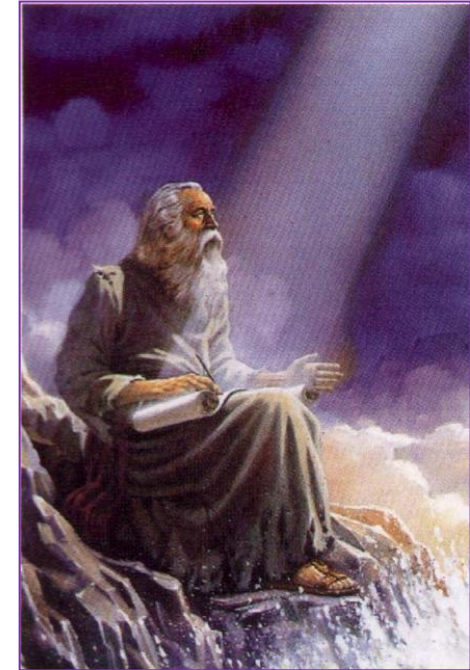
--- James 2:14-17 ... NKJV



1 John 3:19 - OBSERVATIONS

19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.

- By this we know
 - What is the “this” here?
 - Our loving in deed and truth ... *Previous verse*
- We are of the Truth and Assure our Hearts
 - A Christian who practices love
 - grows in his understanding of God’s truth,
 - and enjoys a heart full of confidence before God.
 - Ultimate Truth:
 - Jesus Christ, the Word of God.
 - John 1: 1-5, 14
 - John 14:1-6



1 John 3:20 - OBSERVATIONS

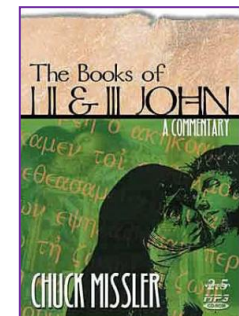
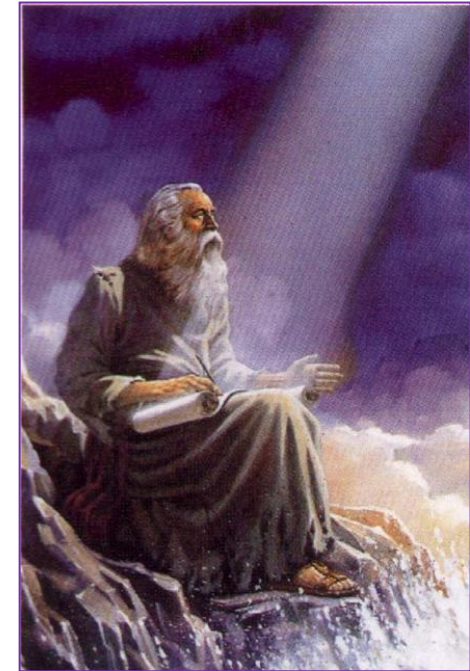
²⁰ For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

- God is greater than our heart
 - At Bethany, Jesus knew Mary's heart and defended her ... [Luke 10:38-42](#)
 - After Peter's denial, Jesus knew of his repentance and sent a special message to him ... [Mark 16:7](#)

⁷ But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."

- Be careful that the devil does not accuse you and rob you of your confidence ... [Revelation](#)

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.



1 John 3:21 - OBSERVATIONS

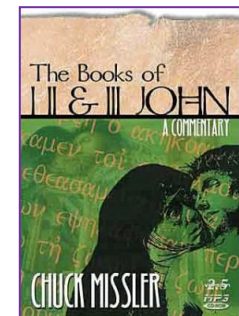
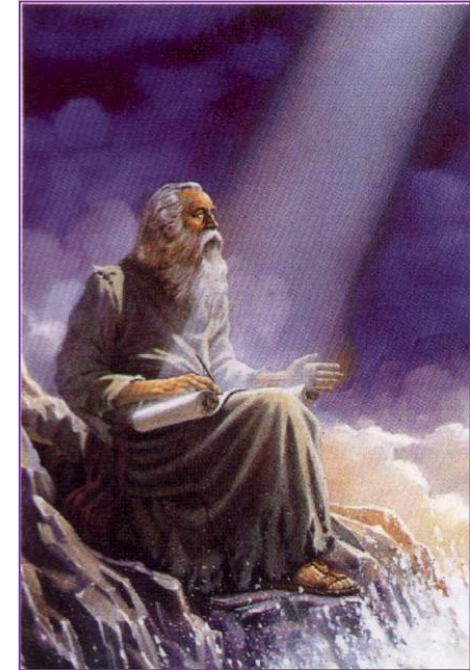
²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

- Confidence toward God
 - Our confidence is in God
 - When we are fully walking in the Light
 - We will be pleasing God
 - We will be keeping His commandments
 - Our Heart will not condemn us

FREE FROM INDWELLING SIN

8 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

--- Romans 8:1 ... NKJV



1 John 3:22 - OBSERVATIONS

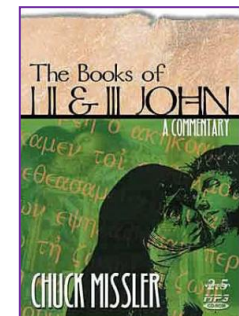
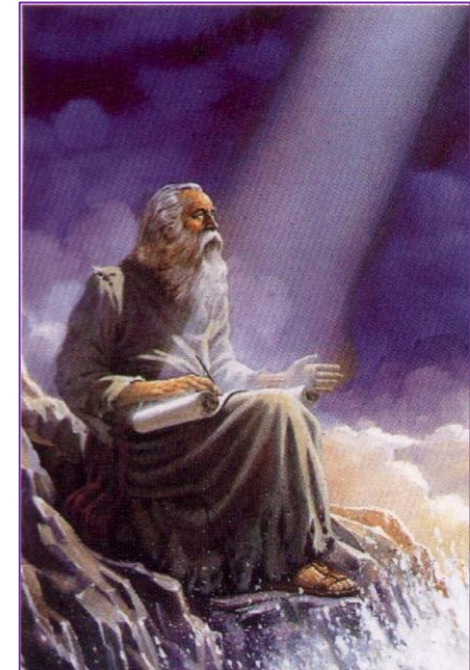
²² And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

- **Whatever we ask we receive**
 - This verse does **NOT** teach “*Blab and Grab*”
 - We do not receive what we ask - *carte blanche*.
 - We ask and receive based on conditions.
 1. We keep His commandments
 2. We do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

THE TRUE VINE

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.

--- John 15:7 ... NKJV



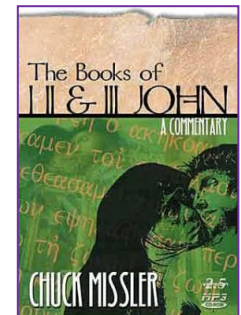
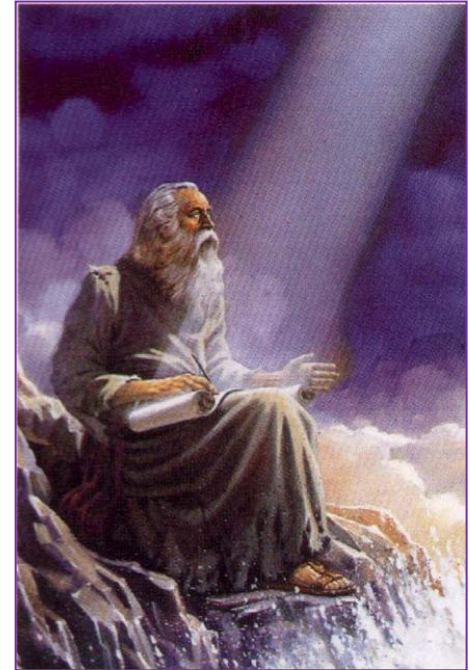
1 John 3:23 - OBSERVATIONS

²³ And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

- Christ's Commandment

- Two fold commandment

1. We should believe on the name of His Son Jesus
 - Vertical relationship
2. Love one another
 - Horizontal relationships





THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST



1 John: God is Light, Love and Life

Lesson 09: Spirit of Truth

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 ... [2:28-3:9]
- 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]

