

1 John 2:1-2 *My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate [someone to speak on our behalf] with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: <sup>2</sup>And he is the propitiation for our sins [He is the full payment for our sins]: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.*

## 1. Introduction

### a. Major themes in 1 John

- i. Several forms of the word “know” are used 38 times in this letter
- ii. To know that we have victory over sin
- iii. God’s principles of blessed assurance

### b. Four purposes of epistle

- i. 1 John 1:4: to **promote joy** in the believer  
1 John 1:4 *And **these things write we unto you**, that your joy may be full.*
- ii. 1 John 2:1: to **prevent sin**  
1 John 2:1 *My little children, **these things write I unto you**, that ye sin not. ...*
- iii. 1 John 2:26: to **protect the saints**  
1 John 2:26 ***These things have I written unto you** concerning them that seduce you [try to get you to follow false teaching].*
- iv. 1 John 5:13: to **provide assurance** of salvation  
1 John 5:13 ***These things have I written unto you** that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life ...*

## 2. An Assurance in Relationship

### a. The Understanding

- i. John calls Christians “my little children” showing an intimate and caring relationship between this Apostle and these believers. He is giving them instructions about their relationship with their Heavenly Father.
- ii. Spiritual relationship between God and Christians based on Jesus’ blood. This results in personal sanctification and a desire to please God through holy living.
- iii. Christian advocate is Jesus Christ

b. The Admonition: That you do not sin

- i. Christian dilemma: human nature still prone to sin.

Romans 6:1-2, 6-7 *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>**God forbid**. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?* [If we really are dead to sin, how can live in sin?...] <sup>6</sup>*Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him [Jesus], that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth [from now on] we should not serve sin. <sup>7</sup>For he that is dead is freed from sin.*

- ii. Condition of old man is crucified with Christ

- iii. Don't give sin permission to rule in your physical body

Romans 6:12-13 *Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal [physical] body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof [that you just give in to all your bodies desires]. <sup>13</sup>Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin [Don't allow the parts of your body to be involved in unrighteousness or sin]: **but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead**, and your members [the parts of your body] as instruments of righteousness unto God.*

- iv. Christ lives inside me

Galatians 2:20 *I [all Christians] am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh [in this body] I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

3. An Advocate with the Father

- a. God's will that I don't sin (verse 1)

1 Corinthians 10:13 *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man [You have not experience a temptation to sin that other people have not also experienced]: **but God is faithful, who will not suffer [allow] you to be tempted above that ye are able** [tempted beyond your ability to resist]; **but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.***

- b. Condition: ...if anyone sin (verse 1)

- i. God's resource: We have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ defends us, Satan constantly accuses us (see below)
- ii. God's response: Jesus stands by Christian even though they sin

c. The Savior: Ministry of advocacy

i. Jesus Christ the Righteous

Redemption already paid on the cross

John 19:30 *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar [while he was on the cross], he said, “**It is finished**”: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost [and died].*

Hebrews 10:12 *But this man [Jesus], after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God;*

ii. Jesus makes intercession for Christian

iii. Christian to live holy life & to come boldly to God’s throne

Romans 8:34 *Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us [who also represents us before God the Father].*

Hebrews 4:14, 16 *Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession [let us never let go of what we believe]. ... <sup>16</sup>**Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.***

d. Why Christian needs an Advocate

i. Satan opposes God’s people, such as Job

- Satan’s 1<sup>st</sup> challenge to God

Job 1:11 ***But put forth thine hand [God’s protective hand] now, and touch [take away] all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.***

- Satan’s 2<sup>nd</sup> challenge to God

Job 2:5 ***But put forth thine hand now, and touch [take away] his bone and his flesh [Job’s health], and he will curse thee to thy face.***

ii. Satan accuses God’s people at God’s throne until end of the world

Revelation 12:9-10 *And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out [from heaven] into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, **which accused them before our God day and night.**”*

- iii. Christian has second Advocate: The Holy Spirit

John 14:16 *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever;*

John 14:26 *But **the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost**, whom the Father will send in my [Jesus'] name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you [and will be sure you remember everything I have ever said to you].*

#### 4. An Appropriation of Forgiveness

##### a. A Divine Provision

- i. God gives the provision for sin
- ii. Jesus Christ the Righteous is the provision for sin
- iii. Old Testament law provides for a covering on the Mercy Seat of the Ark

Leviticus 16:14-15 *And he [the High Priest] shall take of the blood of the bullock [a bull, the sacrifice for the High Priest's own sin], and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward [the mercy seat was the top of the Ark of the Covenant, see Exodus 25:17-22]; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times. <sup>15</sup>Then shall he kill the goat of the sin offering, that is for the people [this was the Passover lamb, the male sheep with no blemishes, whose blood covered the sins of the people, a picture of what Jesus did for us], and bring his blood within the veil [the veil separates the Ark from the rest of the Temple, only the High Priest can go behind the veil once a year for the Passover sacrifice], and do with that blood as he did with the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it upon the mercy seat, and before [in front of] the mercy seat:*

- iv. Jesus is our Mercy Seat (Jesus stands in the place of atonement so that God can be both forgiving and just.)

Hebrews 9:24-26, 28 *For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands [Chris did not go into the Holy Place in the Jerusalem Temple to offer His sacrifice], which are the figures of the true [which are just copied from the real Temple where God is worshipped]; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: <sup>25</sup>Nor yet that he should offer himself often [Nor does Christ offer Himself every time one of us sins], as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others [with the blood of the sacrificial lamb]; <sup>26</sup>For then must he often have [For if yearly sacrifices were God's plan Jesus would have] suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself... <sup>28</sup> So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him [and for those of us who are watching for His return] shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.*

b. A Universal Provision

- i. Jesus died for the whole world, and Jesus has been received by every Christian
- ii. Christian privilege to take up cross of Christ

c. Universal invitation

- i. Jesus is the Savior of all men

1 Timothy 4:10 *For therefore we [For Godly living you and I (Paul)] both labor and suffer reproach [criticism], because we trust in **the living God, who is the Savior of all men**, specially of those that believe.*

- ii. Jesus tasted death for all people

Hebrews 2:9 *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that **he** by the grace of God **should taste death for every man.***

- iii. Jesus died for all

2 Corinthians 5:15 *And that **he** [Jesus] **died for all**, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which [but live for Jesus, who] **died for them**, and rose again.*

- iv. Jesus gave Himself as a ransom for all people

1 Timothy 2:5-6 *For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man **Christ Jesus**; **who gave himself a ransom for all**, to be testified in due time [to be shared with others at the right time].*

- v. Whoever believes in Jesus has eternal life

John 3:15, 17 *That whosoever believeth in him [Jesus] should not perish, but have eternal life. ... <sup>17</sup> For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but **that the world through him might be saved.***

5. Conclusion

- a. John wrote to give assurance to Christians
- b. Jesus died for the whole world. Whosoever will may come.