

# Three Letters From John The Apostle

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## The First Letter From John

### Chapter One

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we observed and our hands handled regarding the Word of Life - 2 and the life was revealed, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us - 3 what we have seen and heard we also proclaim to you so you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. 4 And we are writing these things so our joy may be complete.

5 And this is the message that we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light, and there is in Him no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we are lying and are not practicing the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we are making Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

### Chapter Two

1 My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin. But if someone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous One. 2 And He is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.

3 And 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, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he remains in Him ought himself also to walk as He walked. 7 Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you heard. 8 On the other hand, I am writing you a new commandment that is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining. 9 He who says he is in the light and hates his brother, is still in the darkness

even now. [10](#) He who loves his brother remains in the light, and there is nothing causing offence in him. [11](#) But he who hates his brother is in the darkness, and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

[12](#) I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for His name's sake. [13](#) I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, little children, because you know the Father. [14](#) I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one. [15](#) Do not love the world, nor the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. [16](#) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the vain glory of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. [17](#) And the world is passing away, its lust also. But he who does the will of God continues for ever.

[18](#) Little children, it is the final hour. And as you heard that antichrist was coming, even now many antichrists have arisen, by which we know that it is the final hour. [19](#) They went out from us, but they were not of us, for if they had been of us, they would have stayed with us. But *they went out* so they could be made known, because they all are not of us. [20](#) But you have an anointment from the Holy One, and all of you know. [21](#) I did not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth. [22](#) Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, the one denying the Father and the Son. [23](#) Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father. He who confesses the Son has the Father also. [24](#) As for you, let what you heard from the beginning remain in you. If what you heard from the beginning remains in you, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. [25](#) And this is the promise that He promised us: eternal life! [26](#) These things I have written to you concerning those who are misleading you. [27](#) But as for you, the anointment that you received from Him remains in you, and you have no need for someone to be teaching you. But since His anointment teaches you about all things and is true and is no lie, just as He taught you, remain in Him.

[28](#) And now, little children, remain in Him, so when He is revealed we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. [29](#) Since you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who is practicing righteousness has been born of Him.

## Chapter Three

[1](#) See what manner of love the Father has extended to us, that we should be called children of God, and we are! For this reason the world does not

know us, because it did not know Him. [2](#) Beloved, now we are God's children, and what we shall be, is not yet revealed. We do know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. [3](#) And everyone who has this hope *based* on Him purifies himself as He is pure. [4](#) Everyone practicing sin, is also practicing lawlessness. Sin is lawlessness. [5](#) And you know that He was revealed so He might take away sins, and there is no sin in Him. [6](#) Everyone who remains in Him does not keep on sinning. Everyone who keeps on sinning, has neither seen Him nor known Him.

[7](#) Little children, let no one deceive you. The one practicing righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous. [8](#) The one practicing sin is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. This is why the Son of God was revealed, that He might destroy the works of the devil. [9](#) Anyone who has been born of God does not keep on practicing sin, because His seed abides in him, and he is not able to keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. [10](#) By this the children of God are made known, and the children of the devil. Anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, also someone who does not love his brother.

[11](#) For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning: that we should love one another. [12](#) Not like Cain! He was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil, and his brother's righteous. [13](#) Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you. [14](#) We know that we have passed from death into life because we love the brethren. He who does not love, remains in death. [15](#) Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. [16](#) We know love because He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. [17](#) Now whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and closes his heart against him, how can God's love be abiding in him?

[18](#) Little children, let us love, not in word or with the tongue, but in action and truth. [19](#) By this we will know that we are of the truth, and will make our heart secure before Him, [20](#) because if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. [21](#) Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God, [22](#) and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we are keeping His commandments and doing the things that are pleasing in His sight. [23](#) And this is His commandment, that we should believe in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another according to the commandment He gave us. [24](#) And he who keeps His commandments remains in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He remains in us, by the Spirit whom He gave us.

## Chapter Four

[1](#) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they

are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup> By this you know the Spirit of God. Every spirit that confesses Jesus Christ, come in the flesh, is of God. <sup>3</sup> But every spirit that does not confess Jesus, is not of God, and this is the *spirit* of the antichrist, which you heard was coming, and now is in the world already. <sup>4</sup> You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup> They are of the world. Therefore *what* they speak *is* of the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> We are of God. He who knows God listens to us. He who is not of God, does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God, and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> He who does not love, does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> By this the love of God has been made known among us, that God has sent His one-and-only Son into the world that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup> This is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent his Son *to be* the expiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us *a portion* of His Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *as* the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

<sup>16</sup> And we have known and have believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love, abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> This is how love has been perfected among us, that we may have confidence on the day of judgement, because as He is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love eliminates fear, because fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears has not been perfected in love. <sup>19</sup> We love, because He first loved us.

<sup>20</sup> If a man says, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar. For he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from Him, that he who loves God should love his brother also.

## Chapter Five

<sup>1</sup> Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ, is born of God, and whoever loves Him who gives birth, loves him also who is born of Him. <sup>2</sup> By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and do His commandments. <sup>3</sup> For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup> For whatever is born of God overcomes the world, and this is the victory that has overcome the world, our faith! <sup>5</sup> And who is he who overcomes the

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

6 He is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not in the water only, but in the water and in the blood. 7 And it is the Spirit who is testifying, because the Spirit is the truth. 8 For there are three who are testifying: the Spirit, and the water, and the blood, and the three *agree* as one. 9 If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is God's testimony, that He has testified concerning His Son! 10 The one believing in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. The one not believing God, has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has testified concerning His Son. 11 And the testimony is this, that God gives us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son, has life. He who does not have the Son of God, does not have life.

13 I have written these things to you so you may know that you have eternal life - to the ones who believe in the name of the Son of God. 14 And this is the confidence that we have before Him, that if we ask something according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us when we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of Him.

16 If anyone sees his brother sinning a non-deadly sin, he will ask, and *God* will give him life for those who are committing non-deadly sins. There is deadly sin. I am not saying that you should ask concerning that. 17 All unrighteousness is sin. But there is non-deadly sin.

18 We know that anyone having been born of God does not continue sinning, but He who is born of God watches over him, and the evil one does not have a hold on him. 19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world is found in the evil one. 20 And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding that we might know the True One, and we are in the True One, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the True God, and eternal life.

21 Little children, be careful to avoid idols.

## The Second Letter From John

1 The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all who know the truth, 2 because of the truth abiding in us that will also be with us for ever. 3 Grace, mercy *and* peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, in truth and love.

4 I rejoice greatly that I have found *some* of your children walking in truth, according to the commandment we received from the Father. 5 And now I entreat you, lady, not as though I were writing a new commandment to

you, but that which we have had from the beginning, that we should love one another. [6](#) And this is love: that we walk according to His commandments. This - as you have heard from the beginning - is the commandment in which you should walk.

[7](#) For many deceivers have gone out into the world, they who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist. [8](#) Be careful that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you might receive a full reward. [9](#) Anyone going beyond - and not remaining in - the teaching of Christ, does not have God. He who remains in the teaching, has both the Father and the Son. [10](#) If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not bid him welcome. [11](#) For he who bids him welcome, shares in his evil works.

[12](#) Having many things to write to you, I did not want to use paper and ink. Instead, I hope to come to you, and to speak face to face, that our joy may be complete. [13](#) The children of your elect sister greet you.

# The Third Letter From John

1 The elder, to the beloved Gaius whom I love in truth.

2 Beloved *brother*, I pray that in all things you may prosper and be in good health, just like your soul is prospering. 3 For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified to the truth *that is yours*, as you walk in truth.

4 I have no greater joy than when I hear of my children walking in the truth.

5 Beloved *brother*, you are acting faithfully in the work you do for the brethren, also for strangers, 6 who have testified to your love before the church. You will do good by helping them on their way in a manner worthy of God, 7 because they went forth on behalf of the Name, taking nothing from the Gentiles. 8 So we ought to be hospitable to such men, that we may be fellow-workers for the truth.

9 I wrote something to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not accept us. 10 Therefore, if I come, I will bring up his deeds that he does, speaking nonsense against us with wicked words. And not content with that, he himself does not accept the brethren, and those wanting *to do so* he hinders and throws out of the church! 11 Beloved *brother*, do not imitate the bad, but the good. He who does good is of God; he who does evil has not seen God.

12 Of Demetrius *a good* testimony has been given by all and by the truth itself. We also testify *on his behalf*, and you know that our testimony is true.

13 I had many things to write to you, but I do not want to write *them* to you with ink and pen, 14 but I hope to see you soon, and we shall speak face to face. 15 Peace to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.

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