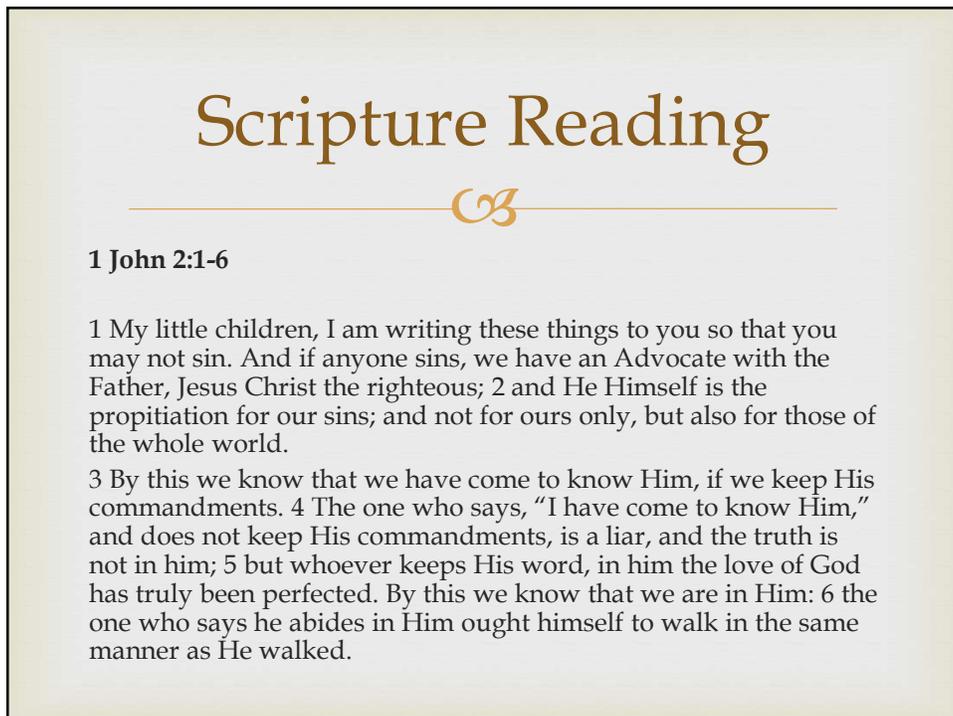


1



2

Key themes of our passage



John reaffirms the necessity of sanctification

- ☞ I am writing this “so that you may not sin”
- ☞ We are not alone in our sanctification
 - ☞ Jesus is our “Advocate with the Father”
- ☞ Warns against false teaching, self-deception
 - ☞ Hearers vs. doers
 - ☞ A new spiritual birth is evidence of salvation
 - ☞ If you say you have faith, but not works that faith is dead
 - ☞ Fruit of the Spirit

3

Exposit: 1Jn 2:1a



1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.

- ☞ “My little children” pastoral in nature
 - ☞ Should be heart of every pastor-teacher/elder
- ☞ “I am writing” apostolic in authority
 - ☞ John is not writing suggestions, but commands and authoritative
- ☞ “so that you may not sin” is a direct command
 - ☞ “may not” is to be understood as “do not”
 - ☞ [**more on sin**]

4

“so that you may not sin”



REMINDER ON CONTEXT: John is combating several forms of false teaching concerning sin

Here is Biblical look into what sin is:

- ☞ ‘sin’ is the Greek ‘hamartanō’ = miss the mark
- ☞ “God’s mark” is God’s oral/written command
 - ☞ Orally given to Adam (one command)
 - ☞ Orally given to Moses (the Law)
 - ☞ Written on stones, scrolls
 - ☞ Ten Commandments/Law given to Israel through Moses
 - ☞ Circumcision, the Law (sacrificial system, festivals)
 - ☞ Additional commands given to Israel through OT Prophets

5

“so that you may not sin”



- ☞ Through Adam, all have sinned (less Jesus)

Romans 3:23

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

- ☞ Through Jesus, all have been made righteous

Romans 5:19

19 For as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

6

“so that you may not sin”



☞ Now that we're believers, sin is no longer our master, instead Jesus is our Master

Romans 6:1-2

1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? 2 May it never be! **How shall we who died to sin still live in it?**

1 Peter 2:24

24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, **so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness**; for by His wounds you were healed.

7

“so that you may not sin”



☞ TRUTH:

- ☞ True believers purpose in life is not to please sin
 - ☞ Me, myself, and I
 - ☞ Lust of the eyes/flesh/pride of life (1Jn 2:16)
- ☞ True believers purpose is to glorify God
 - ☞ Please Father, Son, & Holy Spirit
 - ☞ Put to death the lust of the eyes/flesh/pride of life

8

“so that you may not sin”



A couple of things we need to fully grasp and understand:

- ☞ All have sinned and are saved by God’s redemptive grace
And where the apostle John is getting at:
- ☞ As believers we are not saved unto sin (further unrighteousness), but unto sanctification (further righteousness)

9

Exposit: 1Jn 2:1b



1...And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

- ☞ “And if anyone sins” can be rendered “when anyone sins”
- ☞ Jesus advocates on our behalf
- ☞ “the righteous” – Jesus alone is the Righteous One

10

Paraphrase: 1Jn 2:1



1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you [no longer pursue to live in unrighteousness, but instead pursue to live in righteousness]. [If however, in your pursuit of righteousness you sin along the way], **we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ [the only Righteous One]**;

11

Believers continue to wrestle with sin



- ☞ Even though we are saved we wrestle with sin
 - ☞ We still have a sin nature
 - ☞ Body of death (Rm 7)
 - ☞ When we sin, “Who will rescue us from this body of death?”
 - ☞ The struggle with sin is evidence of salvation
 - 1 John 3:6**
 - 6 No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him.
- Where John is getting at:
- ☞ When sin gets the best of us, Jesus advocates on our behalf!

12

“Advocate with the Father”



- ☞ When we sin, we have an Advocate
- ☞ John tells us Jesus is our Advocates with/before the Father
- ☞ Greek for ‘Advocate’ is ‘paraklētos’ from ‘parakaleō’
 - ☞ ‘paraklētos’ = called to one’s aid, helper
 - ☞ ‘parakaleō’ = to comfort, encourage

13

“Advocate with the Father”



- ☞ Jesus calls the Holy Spirit the ‘paraklētos’ (Jn 14-16)

John 14:16-17

16 I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper (paraklētos), that He may be with you forever; 17 that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

John 14:16-17 (insert Persons of Trinity)

16 I [Jesus] will ask the Father, and [the Father] will give you [the Holy Spirit], [so] that [the Holy Spirit] may be with you forever; 17 that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see [the Holy Spirit] or know [the Holy Spirit], but you know [the Holy Spirit] because [the Holy Spirit] abides with you and will be in you.

14

In Trinity: Father is Initiator and Elector



John 6:38-40 [Jesus speaking to the Jews]

38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him (the Father) who sent Me. 39 This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. 40 For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day...

44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day."

John 6:38-40 [insert Persons of trinity]

38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of [My Father] who sent Me. 39 This is the will of [My Father] who sent Me, that of all that [My Father] has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. 40 For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in [the Son] will have eternal life, and I Myself [the Son] will raise him up on the last day...

44 No one can come to [the Son] unless the Father who sent [the Son] draws him; and I [the Son] will raise him up on the last day."

15

In Trinity: Jesus is Mediator



1 Timothy 2:3-5

3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and **one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,**

☞ Greek for 'mediator' is 'mesitēs' which means arbitrator

16

In Trinity: Jesus & Holy Spirit is Intercessor



Greek for 'intercedes, intercession' is 'entugchanō' which means to plead, make petition on behalf of someone else

Romans 8:26-27, 34

26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, **but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us** with groanings too deep for words; 27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, **because He (the Holy Spirit) intercedes for the saints according to the will of God...**

34 who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, **who also intercedes for us.**

Hebrews 7:25

25 Therefore He (Jesus) is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him (Jesus), since **He (Jesus) always lives to make intercession for them.**

17

Exposit: 1Jn 2:1



☞ If we combine Jn 6:44, 1Jn 2:1, Jn 14-16, 1Tim 2:5, Rm 8:26-27, 37, Heb 7:25, here are some roles fulfilled by the Trinity in redemption:

- ☞ Father (begins with the Father's will)
 - ☞ Initiator
 - ☞ Elector (no one can come to Jesus unless given by the Father)
- ☞ Son (carries out Father's will)
 - ☞ Savior
 - ☞ Mediator (arbitrator)
 - ☞ Co-Advocate (paraklētōs)
 - ☞ Co-Intercessor (pleads, makes petition)
- ☞ Holy Spirit (carries out Father's/Son's will)
 - ☞ Sustainer (deposit)
 - ☞ Co-Advocate (paraklētōs)
 - ☞ Co-Intercessor (pleads, makes petition)

18

“Advocate with the Father”



TRUTH: All 3 Persons of the Trinity are involved in our salvation!

☞ Father

☞ Initiator and Elector (begins/ends with Father’s will)

☞ Son (Jesus)

☞ Savior/Mediator/Advocate (paraklētōs)/Intercessor

☞ Holy Spirit

☞ Sustainer/Advocate (paraklētōs)/Intercessor

19

“Advocate with the Father”



TRUTH: When (not if) we sin, all 3 Persons in the trinity is working out our salvation on our behalf!

Philippians 2:12-13

12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is *God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

☞ *3x insurance, *3x spiritual insurance policies, *thrice covered!

☞ *3x eternally secured ☺

20

Exposit: 1Jn 2:2



2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

- ☞ “He Himself” referring to Jesus
- ☞ Although all 3 Persons in the trinity are involved in our salvation, the 2nd Person, Jesus, is the One who died for us
- ☞ “propitiation for our sins” [more on this]
- ☞ “for those of the whole world” [more on this]

21

“propitiation for our sins”



- ☞ Greek for ‘propitiation’ (hilasmos) means to appease
 - ☞ God’s wrath, destruction, judgment
 - ☞ On Earth: given to the hands of evil men (enemies), calamities
 - ☞ On Judgment Day for sin: given to the hands of the living God
 - ☞ [some examples]

22

Examples of God's wrath



Genesis 19:23-26 (Sodom and Gomorrah)

23 The sun had risen over the earth when Lot came to Zoar. 24 Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven, 25 and He overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. 26 But his wife, from behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

23

Examples of God's wrath



Numbers 16:41-50 (Murmuring and Plague)

41 But on the next day all the congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron, saying, "You are the ones who have caused the death of the Lord's people." 42 It came about, however, when the congregation had assembled against Moses and Aaron, that they turned toward the tent of meeting, and behold, the cloud covered it and the glory of the Lord appeared. 43 Then Moses and Aaron came to the front of the tent of meeting, 44 and the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 45 "Get away from among this congregation, that I may consume them instantly." Then they fell on their faces. 46 Moses said to Aaron, "Take your censer and put in it fire from the altar, and lay incense on it; then bring it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them, for wrath has gone forth from the Lord, the plague has begun!" 47 Then Aaron took it as Moses had spoken, and ran into the midst of the assembly, for behold, the plague had begun among the people. So he put on the incense and made atonement for the people. 48 He took his stand between the dead and the living, so that the plague was checked. 49 **But those who died by the plague were 14,700, besides those who died on account of Korah.** 50 Then Aaron returned to Moses at the doorway of the tent of meeting, for the plague had been checked.

24

Examples of God's wrath



Isaiah 45:5-7

5 "I am the Lord, and there is no other;
Besides Me there is no God.

I will gird you (Cyrus the anointed, Persian king), though you have
not known Me;

6 That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun
That there is no one besides Me.

I am the Lord, and there is no other,

7 **The One forming light and creating darkness,**

Causing well-being and creating calamity;

I am the Lord who does all these.

25

Examples of God's wrath



Hebrews 10:31

31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

26

“propitiation for our sins”



- ☞ John says Jesus is the propitiation of our sins
- ☞ Jesus is the one who appeases God’s wrath, destruction, judgment
 - ☞ On Earth: given to the hands of evil men (enemies), calamities
 - ☞ On Judgment Day for sin: given to the hands of the living God

27

“propitiation for our sins”



A couple of things we need to grasp and understand:

- ☞ Wages of sin is death
 - ☞ Now and for eternity

Romans 6:23
23 For the wages of sin is death (now and for eternity), but the free gift of God is eternal life (now and for eternity) in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- ☞ God’s holiness requires that our sins are dealt with:
 - ☞ Perfect justice
 - ☞ Perfect sacrifice (atonement must be made)
 - ☞ “propitiation” and “atonement” is connected

28

“Day of Atonement ”



Leviticus 16

1 Now the Lord spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they had approached the presence of the Lord and died. 2 The Lord said to Moses: “Tell your brother Aaron that he shall not enter at any time into the holy place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, or he will die; for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. 3 Aaron shall enter the holy place with this: with a bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. 4 He shall put on the holy linen tunic, and the linen undergarments shall be next to his body, and he shall be girded with the linen sash and attired with the linen turban (these are holy garments). Then he shall bathe his body in water and put them on. 5 He shall take from the congregation of the sons of Israel two male goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering. 6 Then Aaron shall offer the bull for the sin offering which is for himself, that he may make atonement for himself and for his household. 7 He shall take the two goats and present them before the Lord at the doorway of the tent of meeting. 8 Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats, one lot for the Lord and the other lot for the scapegoat. 9 Then Aaron shall offer the goat on which the lot for the Lord fell, and make it a sin offering. 10 But the goat on which the lot for the scapegoat fell shall be presented alive before the Lord, to make atonement upon it, to send it into the wilderness as the scapegoat.

29

“Day of Atonement ”



Leviticus 16

11 “Then Aaron shall offer the bull of the sin offering which is for himself and make atonement for himself and for his household, and he shall slaughter the bull of the sin offering which is for himself. 12 He shall take a firepan full of coals of fire from upon the altar before the Lord and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense, and bring it inside the veil. 13 He shall put the incense on the fire before the Lord, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that is on the ark of the testimony, otherwise he will die. 14 Moreover, he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the mercy seat on the east side; also in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times. 15 “Then he shall slaughter the goat of the sin offering which is for the people, and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat. 16 He shall make atonement for the holy place, because of the impurities of the sons of Israel and because of their transgressions in regard to all their sins; and thus he shall do for the tent of meeting which abides with them in the midst of their impurities. 17 When he goes in to make atonement in the holy place, no one shall be in the tent of meeting until he comes out, that he may make atonement for himself and for his household and for all the assembly of Israel. 18 Then he shall go out to the altar that is before the Lord and make atonement for it, and shall take some of the blood of the bull and of the blood of the goat and put it on the horns of the altar on all sides. 19 With his finger he shall sprinkle some of the blood on it seven times and cleanse it, and from the impurities of the sons of Israel consecrate it.

30

“Day of Atonement ”



Leviticus 16

20 “When he finishes atoning for the holy place and the tent of meeting and the altar, he shall offer the live goat. 21 Then Aaron shall lay both of his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the sons of Israel and all their transgressions in regard to all their sins; and he shall lay them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who stands in readiness. 22 The goat shall bear on itself all their iniquities to a solitary land; and he shall release the goat in the wilderness.

23 “Then Aaron shall come into the tent of meeting and take off the linen garments which he put on when he went into the holy place, and shall leave them there. 24 He shall bathe his body with water in a holy place and put on his clothes, and come forth and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people and make atonement for himself and for the people. 25 Then he shall offer up in smoke the fat of the sin offering on the altar. 26 The one who released the goat as the scapegoat shall wash his clothes and bathe his body with water; then afterward he shall come into the camp. 27 But the bull of the sin offering and the goat of the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the holy place, shall be taken outside the camp, and they shall burn their hides, their flesh, and their refuse in the fire. 28 Then the one who burns them shall wash his clothes and bathe his body with water, then afterward he shall come into the camp.

An Annual Atonement

29 “This shall be a permanent statute for you: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall humble your souls and not do any work, whether the native, or the alien who sojourns among you; 30 for it is on this day that atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you; you will be clean from all your sins before the Lord. 31 It is to be a sabbath of solemn rest for you, that you may humble your souls; it is a permanent statute. 32 So the priest who is anointed and ordained to serve as priest in his father’s place shall make atonement: he shall thus put on the linen garments, the holy garments, 33 and make atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tent of meeting and for the altar. He shall also make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly. 34 Now you shall have this as a permanent statute, to make atonement for the sons of Israel for all their sins once every year.” And just as the Lord had commanded Moses, so he did.

31

Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)



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32

Jesus Propitiates Our Sins



Hebrews 2:14-18

14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. 16 For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham. 17 Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, **so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.** 18 For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

33

Jesus Propitiates Our Sins



TRUTH:

- ☞ Jesus fully atoned for our sins
- ☞ Jesus fully satisfied the wrath of God by bearing God's wrath on the cross
- ☞ Jesus fully appeased the holiness and judgment of God by being the Perfect Paschal Lamb sacrifice

34

Exposit: 1Jn 2:2



2 and He Himself [Jesus] is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

☞ “for those of the whole world” [more on this]

35

“for those of the whole world”



☞ Greek for world is ‘kosmos’ depending on context it could mean:

- ☞ Earth
- ☞ Creation
- ☞ World system
- ☞ People

☞ In 1Jn 2:2, it means people, John is saying the Jesus is the Only Savior for all people

1 Timothy 4:10

10 For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, **who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.**

☞ John and Paul are saying the same thing

- ☞ Jesus is the propitiation for sins for the whole world, especially of believers

36

Exposit: 1Jn 2:3



3 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

- ☞ “By this” - referring to keeping His commandments later in v.
- ☞ ‘know’ is ‘ginōskō’ beyond general knowledge
 - ☞ Intimate knowledge through experience
- ☞ ‘Him’ of course is referring to Jesus
- ☞ ‘keep’ is ‘tēreō’ which means to watch over, guard, observe

37

Paraphrase: 1Jn 2:3



3 [This is how we can know that we truly experienced a saving relationship with Jesus Christ, that you watch over, guard, and observe His Word in your heart].

John 14:15 (Jesus speaking to His disciples)

15 “If you love (agapaō) Me, you will keep (tēreō) My Commandments.

John 14:23-24 (Jesus speaking to Judas (not Iscariot))

23 Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves (agapaō) Me, he will keep (tēreō) My word; and My Father will love (agapaō) him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. 24 **He who does not love (agapaō) Me does not keep (tēreō) My words;** and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.

38

Exposit: 1Jn 2:3



TRUTH:

- ☞ Believers hear their Good Shepherd (Jn 10)
- ☞ Believers run from false shepherds, false teachers
- ☞ Believers guard the truth in their heart
- ☞ Believers want to love and obey Jesus's commands

39

Exposit: 1Jn 2:4



4 The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;

- ☞ "The one who says" can be translated "anyone who says"
- ☞ "come to (ginōskō) Him, yet
- ☞ "does not keep His commands, is a liar"
- ☞ The truth, God's Word, is not in that person

40

Paraphrase: 1Jn 2:4



4 ["Anyone who claims to be a Christian, felt Jesus in his heart, but does not guard or care about the Bible, is a liar, he is deceived and is not saved"]

Remember context, there was false teaching that:

- ❧ Rejected the gospel taught by the apostles
- ❧ Attacked the Person and Deity of Jesus
- ❧ Distorted His atonement
- ❧ Refused to acknowledge human depravity
- ❧ Minimized sin
- ❧ Tolerated sin
 - ❧ Sexual immorality, ate food sacrificed to idols

41

Warning against self-deception



- ❧ John warns against false teaching, self-deception
 - ❧ Hearers vs. doers
 - ❧ A new spiritual birth is evidence of salvation
 - ❧ If you say you have faith, but not works that faith is dead
 - ❧ Fruit of the Spirit

42

Hearers vs. Doers



Romans 2:13

13 for **it is not the hearers** of the Law who are just before God, **but the doers** of the Law will be justified.

James 1:23-25

23 For **if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer**, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. 25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, **not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer**, this man will be blessed in what he does.

- ☞ Hearers only = not saved (no spiritual birth)
- ☞ Hearers and doers = saved (spiritual birth)

43

New Spiritual Birth



John 3:3-8

3 Jesus answered and said to him (Nicodemus), "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

4 Nicodemus *said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?"

5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

- ☞ No spiritual birth = dead faith
- ☞ Spiritual birth = saving faith

44

Faith without Works is Dead



James 2:14-26

14 What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? 17 Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.

45

Faith without Works is Dead



18 But someone may well say, "You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works." 19 You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. 20 But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless? 21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? 22 You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; 23 and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," and he was called the friend of God. 24 You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone. 25 In the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? 26 For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

46

Faith without Works is Dead



- ☞ works = deeds, action, behavior
- ☞ James is speaking to another Jew whose not relying on works (Judaism), but a shallow, superficial faith
 - ☞ If Judaism is far right, then superficial faith is far left
- ☞ Empty words are empty words
 - 1 John 3:18**
 - 18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.
- ☞ Faith is substantive
 - ☞ Expresses itself with action (love is the motivation)
 - ☞ Abraham's and Rahab's faith was in action (motivated by fear and love for God)
- ☞ Faith is credited with righteousness

47

Fruit of the Spirit



- ☞ Good works/actions/deeds acceptable to God is when the Spirit produces fruit in us:

Galatians 5:16-26

16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. 17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. 19 Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20 idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, 21 envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. **22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.** **24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.**

25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26 Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

48

Warning against self-deception

- ☞ John warns against false teaching, self-deception
- ☞ Call for self-examination:
 - ☞ Hearers vs. doers
 - ☞ A new spiritual birth is evidence of salvation
 - ☞ If you say you have “faith”, but that “faith” does not express itself in action/deeds to show love for God and to one another
 - ☞ Such faith is dead

49

Saving Faith Test

Exam Questions (Yes/No):

- ☞ Do you believe that Jesus fully atoned for your sins (by God’s grace)?
- ☞ Do you believe that Jesus was raised from the dead as proof that He paid for your sins in full so that He can raise you from the dead unto eternal life?
- ☞ Do you believe that Jesus is the Savior of all men?
- ☞ Do you treasure His Word (the Bible)?
- ☞ Do you desire to love Him and obey His commandments?
- ☞ Do you desire to bring God glory?
- ☞ Do you not only want to hear the Bible, but desire to do what it says?
- ☞ If your faith alive? Does it express itself in love and in action?
- ☞ Are you the same person before you became a Christian?
- ☞ Is there evidence of the fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life?

- ☞ If the answer is Yes for all of them, then your faith past the test!
 - ☞ You are saved! ☺
- ☞ If the answer is No for some/all or you’re on the fence with any of them, then your faith did not past the test.
 - ☞ You’re probably immature in your faith, or worst case, not saved ☹

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Exposit: 1Jn 2:5



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:

- ✧ Again true believers watch over, guard, and observe His Word
- ✧ 'perfected' is 'teleioō' means to fully accomplish, complete goal
- ✧ "By this" antecedent "keeps His Word"
- ✧ 'know' is still 'ginōsko'
- ✧ "in Him", "in the faith", "in right relationship with" → Jesus

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Paraphrase: 1Jn 2:5



5 [true believers who] keeps His word, in [his heart] the love of God has truly been [fully accomplished and its goal reached, salvation]. By [keeping His Word is how we can] know that we are [truly saved in Jesus]

- ✧ Tell-tell if you have the real faith or not
 - ✧ God's truth is in your heart and is it bearing fruit (of the Holy Spirit)

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Exposit: 1Jn 2:6



6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

- ☞ 'abides' is 'menō' which means to stay, remain
- ☞ "same manner as He walked" is referring to Jesus walking or living in Righteousness
- ☞ John is referring to his gospel, Jn 15 (True Vine)

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Jesus is the True Vine



John 15:1-11

1 "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 it so 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**, so 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**, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. 6 **If anyone does not abide in Me**, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. 7 **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you**, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. 9 Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; **abide in My love**. 10 If you keep My commandments, **you will abide in My love**; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and **abide in His love**. 11 These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

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“same manner as He walked”

Here are some examples of how Jesus walked/lived:

- ☞ Lived to please the Father
- ☞ His “food” was to do the will of His Father
- ☞ Was merciful and compassionate
- ☞ Was Righteous in everything He said and did
- ☞ Spoke the truth in love

So the apostle John is saying that believers are to follow in Jesus’s footsteps, that is:

- ☞ Strive to live to please the Father
- ☞ Strive to do the will of His Father
- ☞ Strive to be merciful and compassionate
- ☞ Strive to be righteous in everything we say or do
- ☞ Strive to speak the truth in love