

*"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, purifies us from all sin."*  
*John 1:7*



*Winter 2023*

session two

# Welcome



Welcome friends! Last week we opened with the history of the writings of the Gospel of John and 1, 2, & 3 John. We looked at the similarities in writing style, phrases, and who identified themselves as the author.

Like anything else in life, hindsight is 20/20. We can see how John the apostle, speaking as an older and wiser man instead of the impetuous "Son of Thunder" as Jesus referred to him, is writing with a heart for all to know Jesus as Savior. There are some interesting writing style notes that we will talk about in these verses today that, once they are pointed out, will be something to remember.

I want to thank you for taking the time to be a part of this study and for doing the work that makes it more meaningful to you personally. If you have any questions regarding the study, please feel free to reach out to me via email at [cjamison@eastridgetoday.com](mailto:cjamison@eastridgetoday.com)

Blessings,

Cheryl Jamison



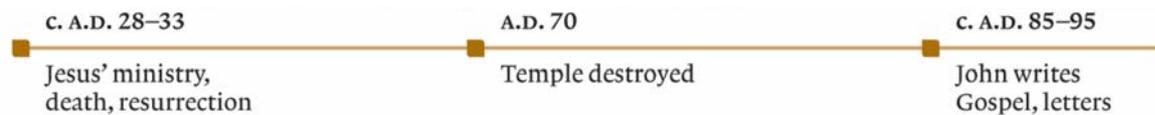
# Teaching Notes

#EW\_beinthelight



3

# 1 John 1:5-10



We are reminded of the timeline of the living out of the ministry of Jesus in 28-33 AD to the time of these writings, estimated to be 85-95 AD, a period of roughly 60 years in John's life from the time he walked with Jesus to the time he memorializes it in writing. These writings go from the time when he referred to himself as the disciple whom Jesus loved to now, John the elder.

In our video teaching, I mentioned a style of writing called a doublet. where each sentence becomes a statement that bounces back and forth to two different groups or two different kinds of statements. Take a closer look at this rhythm below. If we restructure the passage this way (below), we see that the odd verses refer to Christians and the even verses refer to the Dualist or Gnostic unbelievers.

*[CHRISTIANS]* 5 This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

*[DUALISTS/GNOSTICS]* 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

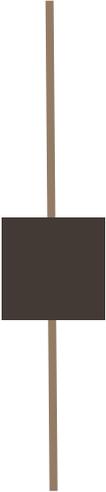
*[CHRISTIANS]* 7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

*[DUALISTS/GNOSTICS]* 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

*[CHRISTIANS]* 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*[DUALISTS/GNOSTICS]* 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

John describes the difference between Christians and non-Christians, rather than Christians who confess their sin. When John uses the term “we,” he uses it in the editorial sense. That is, whoever decides to live one way or the other.



# Group Discussion

- Let's start by looking back at verses 3 & 4 when John brings up the concept of fellowship. The word used here in Greek is Koinonia. The definition of Koinonia is: fellowship, association, community, communion, joint participation, or a gift jointly contributed to. Give an example of what Koinonia or Fellowship looks like in your daily practice.
- Three times in 1 John 1, John says, "if we claim..." to introduce a belief he thinks is false. These are probably doctrines of the teachers (Dualists/Gnostics) he wants to refute. What are those three false claims? Individually look these references up, then discuss each of the "if we claim" statements  
1:6  
  
1:8  
  
1:10
- Is it possible to be walking in the light and confess sin without spending lots of time with God? Why or why not?
- 1 John 1:5-10 emphasizes Fellowship with God and with each other. Walking in the light is written as an important part of maintaining both kinds of fellowship. Have you seen how choosing not to walk in the light of Christ minimizes fellowship with one another?
- What would John say to someone who claims, "I used to have a sinful nature and commit sins, but now Jesus has cleansed me, and I no longer ever sin"?

# Personal Study 1 John 1:5-10

1. Look up the following references and record how they define and regard God and light:

- John 8:12
- James 1:17
- 1 Timothy 6:16
- 1 Peter 2:9

2. What message has John heard that he now declares to us? (1 John 1:5)

3. If we say we have fellowship with God but walk in darkness, what are we? (1 John 1:6)

4. What do we enjoy as we walk in the light together with God? (1 John 1:7)



# Personal Study 1 John 1:5-10

5. Read 1 John 1:6-7; According to those verses.....  
What is possible?

What is impossible?

6. What if we say that we have no sin? (1 John 1:8, 1 John 1:10)

7. What's required to be forgiven of sin and cleansed of all unrighteousness? (1 John 1:9)

8. To confess means "to say the same as." When we confess our sin, we are willing to say (and believe) the same thing about our sin that God says about it. As God convicts us of sin that is hindering our fellowship with Him, we must confess it and receive forgiveness and cleansing for our relationship with God to continue without hindrance. What should a confession **NOT** sound like?

# Personal Study 1 John 1:5-10

9. How do we walk in continual fellowship with God, and how is this similar to walking in continual fellowship with each other?

10. 1 John 1:9 is one of the most important scriptures that is used to illustrate forgiveness of sins. Look it up in your bible and fill in the blanks:

"If we confess our sins, he is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

The confession John is talking about is not only agreeing with God that we have sinned but also expressing a desire to turn away from that sin, to make a plan not to return to it. This doesn't mean we will never sin again, but it does mean that our desire and intent would be to never return to that sin.

- Why do you think John used these two particular words in relation to God's forgiveness toward us?

# THE LETTERS OF 1.2.3

# JOHN

KNOWING JESUS = KNOWING THE GOD OF LOVE

THE UNDETECTABLE

## 1 JOHN

NOT A LETTER, BUT A TORQUE SPEAKING  
ALL THE KEY IDEAS COME FROM JESUS' FINAL SPEECH IN JOHN chs. 13-17

~~NOT LINEAR~~  
~~THE LETTERS ARE NOT A THUS...~~

"AMPLIFICATION"  
LIFE  
TRUTH  
LOVE  
\* CRITICAL REPRISAL  
\* AFTERGLOW  
\* MARK CONTRASTS

"AMPLIFICATION"

THE AUTHOR

"THE ELDER" → THE DISCIPLE  
(SEE 2.13 JOHN)  
(SEE JOHN 21.20-24)

JOHN  
"SON OF ZEBEDEE"  
"THE ELDER"



OVERSEEING HOUSE CHURCHES (PROBABLY IN EPHESUS)  
"I GOING LEFT THE CHURCH & BANNED JESUS AS HERESY & SON OF GOD (SEE 1 JOHN 2:18-23, 4:1-3)  
"THEY'VE GENERATED HOSTILITY (1 JOHN 3:7-10)  
"JOHN ABOLISH THESE FOR DAMAGE CONTROL & TO ASSURE THE CHURCHES."

THE CRISIS

"I GOING LEFT THE CHURCH & BANNED JESUS AS HERESY & SON OF GOD (SEE 1 JOHN 2:18-23, 4:1-3)  
"THEY'VE GENERATED HOSTILITY (1 JOHN 3:7-10)  
"JOHN ABOLISH THESE FOR DAMAGE CONTROL & TO ASSURE THE CHURCHES."



1:5-3:10 THIS IS THE MESSAGE...

GOD IS...

1:1-4

INTRODUCTION

"SHINE TO JOHN 1:1-6  
"FATHERS OF GENERATIONS & PROPHETS & LIFE & LIFE"

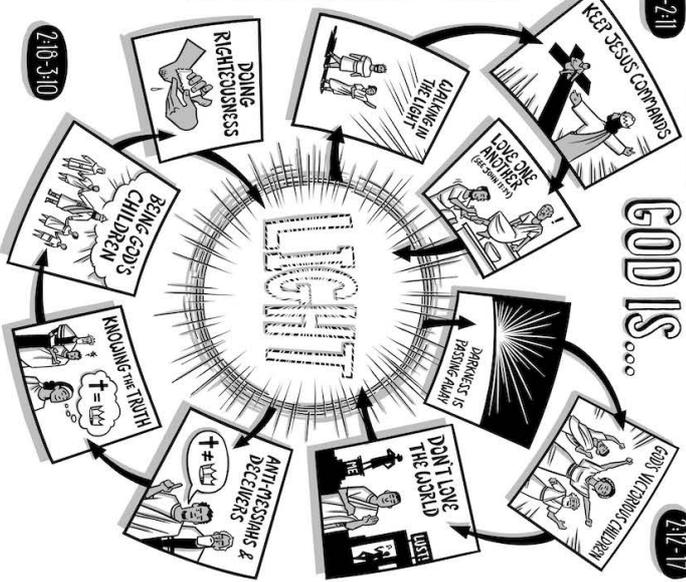
FATHER  
"SON" → "YOU"

"WE" → THE APOSTLES

"YOU" → NEXT GENERATION

FELLOWSHIP = KNEEK-KONONIMA  
"PARTICIPATION IN GOD'S OWN LIFE & LOVE"

2:10-3:10



3:11-5:17 THIS IS THE MESSAGE...

GOD IS...

3:11-21

LOVE DEFINED

LOVE vs HATE

TRUSTING GOD'S LOVE

FALSE PROPHETS

LOVE & VICTORY

TRUSTING THE CRUCIFIED JESUS

TAKING GOD'S FESTIVITIES

ETERNAL LIFE

5:1-17



5:18-21

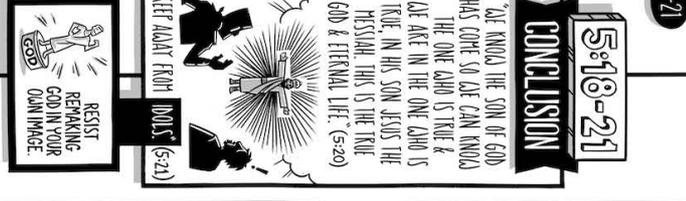
CONCLUSION

"BUT KNOW! THE SON OF GOD HAS COME SO WE CAN KNOW THE ONE WHO IS TRUE & LIVE IN HIM IN HIS SON JESUS THE MESSIAH. THIS IS THE TRUE GOD & ETERNAL LIFE." (5:20)

"KEEP AWAY FROM IDOLS" (5:21)

RESIST REPAKING GOD IN YOUR OWN IMAGE.

5:18-21



## 2 JOHN

"IF THE RECEIVERS COME TO YOUR CHURCH...  
"DON'T OFFER THEM SUPPORT."

"DEAR CHURCH"



## 3 JOHN

"WELCOME THE BROTHERS...  
"DEAR GAIUS"

"DON'T BE LIKE DIOTREPHES."



created by the Bible Project