

# 1 John Review

1 John was written so that those who have believed in Jesus Christ may know that they have eternal life (1 John 5:13). Antichrists and false prophets were trying to deceive the children of God. A number of these deceivers had been in their church but later left the church. They were teaching “new truths” which were actually lies. John wanted “his children” to hold fast to the teaching which they heard from the beginning. John heard Jesus’ teaching for three years. John saw Jesus’ miracles. He saw Jesus die on the cross. He saw the resurrected Christ and his ascension into heaven. Followers of Jesus needed to listen to John instead of a group of people who did not know Jesus but who claimed to have special knowledge. John encouraged the recipients of the letter to be confident that they already knew God and that they knew the truth. They didn’t need any new, special knowledge to know God. John gave them a number of tests to determine who truly were children of God and who were children of the devil.

## Tests to determine who is a child of God and who is a child of the devil.

### 1. Doctrine – how does someone answer the question, “who is Jesus and why did Jesus come to earth”?

#### *Pass*

2:22, 5:1 Confess / believes that Jesus is the Christ

4:2 Confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh

4:15, 5:5 Confesses / believes that Jesus is the Son of God

#### *Fail*

2:22 Deny that Jesus is the Christ

4:3 Does not confess Jesus

Does not confess that Jesus is the Son of God

### 2. Conduct / Fruit – how does a person live versus what they say?

#### *Pass – Talks the Talk and Walks the Walk*

1:7 We walk in the light as He is in the light

1:9 Confess our sins

2:3, 2:5, 2:6, 3:24, 5:2-3 We keep his commandments

2:10, 3:14, 3:23, 4:7, 4:11-12, 4:16, 4:21, 5:1 Loves his brother / Loves the brothers / Loves one another / abides in love

2:15 Does not love the world

2:29, 3:7 Practices righteousness

#### *Fail – Talk but no Walk*

1:6 We say we have fellowship with God but walk in the darkness

1:8, 10 Deny sin and the fact that we are all sinners

2:4, 2:6 Say “I know him” but does not keep his commandments

2:9, 2:10, 3:15 Says he is in the light but hates his brother; 3:10, 3:14, 4:8 Does not love his brother; 4:20 Says he loves God but hates his brother

2:15 Loves the world

3:4, 3:8 Makes a practice of sinning; 3:10 Does not practice righteousness

3:6, 3:9, 5:18 Does not keep on sinning

3:6 Keeps on sinning

3:18 Loves in deed and in truth

3:17 Closes his heart against a brother in need

4:6 Listens to God's word

4:5 Listens to antichrists and false prophets

5:4 Overcomes the world

3:23, 5:10, 5:13 Believes in the name of his Son Jesus Christ / Believes in [the name of] the Son of God

5:10 Does not believe in the Son of God

5:12 Has the Son

5:12 Does not have the Son

### **God's Attributes**

1:5 God is light and in him is no darkness at all

3:20 God is greater than our heart

3:20 God knows everything

4:8, 4:16 God is love

5:20 God is true

### **God's Work**

1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness

3:22 God answers our prayers when we keep his commandments and do what pleases him

3:24 God gave us the Holy Spirit

4:9 God manifested his love by sending his Son into the world so that we might live through him

4:10 God loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins

4:14 The Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world

5:11 God gave us eternal life

5:14-15 God hears and answers our prayers when we ask according to his will

### **What Jesus Does and has Done**

1:7 The blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin

2:1 If we sin, he is our advocate with the Father

2:2 He is the propitiation for our sins and the sins of the whole world

3:5 He did not sin

3:16 He laid down his life for us

5:11, 5:20 Eternal life is in Jesus

5:20 Has come and given us understanding so that we may know God

### **Why Jesus Came / Was Sent**

3:5 He appeared to take away sins

3:8 The Son of God appeared to destroy the works of the devil

4:9 God sent his Son into the world so that we might live through him

4:10 God sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins

4:14 The Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world

### **The Holy Spirit**

2:20 Gives us knowledge

2:27 Abides in us and teaches us the truth

4:13 Gives us assurance that we are God's children

5:6 Testifies to Jesus

5:6 Is the truth

### **Those Trying to Deceive Them (2:26)**

A. Many antichrists have come (2:18)

I. 2:19 They were in the church but they left the church

II. 2:22 Deny that Jesus is the Christ

III. 2:22 Denies the Father and the Son

IV. 4:3 Does not confess Jesus

V. 4:3 The spirit of antichrist is in the world already

B. Many false prophets have gone out into the world (4:1)

I. 4:2-3 Does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh

II. 4:5 They speak from the world and the world listens to them

We / You Know (ginōskō)

2:3 **By this we know** that we **have come to know** him, if we keep his commandments

2:5 **By this we know** that we are in him ... if we walk the same way he walked

2:13 Fathers, **you know** the one from the beginning

2:14 Children, **you know** the Father

2:14 Fathers, **you know** the one from the beginning

2:18 We know that it is the last hour (because many antichrists have already gone out into the world)

2:29 You know that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him

3:16 **By this we know** love, that he laid down his life for us

3:19 **By this we shall know** that we are of the truth (if we love in deed and in truth)

3:24 **By this we know** that he abides in us, by his Spirit

4:2 **By this you know** the Spirit of God, every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh

4:6 **By this we know** the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error (whoever listens to us or not)

4:13 **By this we know** that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us his Spirit

5:2 **By this we know** that we love the children, when we love God and obey his commandments

We / You Know (oida)

3:2 **We know** that when he appears, we shall be like him

3:5 **You know** that he appeared in order to take away sins

3:14 **we know** that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brothers

3:15 **you know** that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him

5:18 **we know** that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning

5:19 **we know** that we are from God

5:20 **we know** that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding

John painted in black and white. There were no shades of gray.

*Children of God*

*Children of the devil*

Truth

Lies

Life

Death

Righteousness

Sin

Loves

Hates

Light

Darkness

Confesses

Denies