

# Discover the New Testament – I John

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I John was written by the Apostle John, who also wrote the gospel of John, II & III John, and Revelation.

John tells that he was an eye witness to Jesus and declares that Jesus is the way to eternal life.

**I John 1:1-2** - That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life. The life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us

John was dealing with the false teaching that how a Christian lived his daily life didn't matter, and that sin was an issue that must be dealt with in the life of a believer.

**I John 1:1-2;5-9** - My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation or *satisfying of wrath*, for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**I John 2:1-2** - My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation (*satisfying of wrath*) for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Jesus gave us a **New Commandment**.

**John 13:34-35** - A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

**I John 2:4-5** - He who says, "**I know Him,**" and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly **the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.** He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

**I John 2:20-21;27-29** - But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth. But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him. And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

We must **know** the **love of God**.

**I John 3:1-3** - Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

**Knowing** and **believing God's Love** causes our hearts to be assured or persuaded before God and positions us to **Receive from God**.

**I John 3:18-23** - My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

Our prayers can be hindered when we live outside the realm of God's love.

**I Peter 3:7-10** - Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that **your prayers may not be hindered**. Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not

returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

We overcome by **the Greater One** who lives in us and not our own righteousness, efforts or goodness!

**I John 4:4** - 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.

**Born of God** and **Knowing God** are two different things.

**I John 4:7-8** - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

Perfect love casts out dread toward God.

**I John 4:16-19** - And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the Day of Judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love or there is no fear in love [dread does not exist], but full-grown (complete, perfect) love turns fear out of doors and expels every trace of terror! For fear brings with it the thought of punishment, and [so] he who is afraid [of God] has not reached the full maturity of love [is not yet grown into love's complete perfection]. We love Him because He first loved us.

John ends his letter as he began it—declaring that Jesus is the only way to eternal life.

**I John 5:12-13** - He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.