

## 1 John 3

1. According to 1 John 2:1, why did God and John write this letter?

- Because God does not want us to sin.
- Because God wants us to be His close friends.

2. Why would some people not want Christ to die for them?

- Some people think that they have not sinned.
- Some people think that they do not need to be saved.
- Some people think that they can save themselves.

3. According to 1 John 2:3-6, what is the difference between a false Christian and a true Christian?

- A false Christian will say that they know God, but they do not obey God's Word.
- A true Christian will say that they know God, and they will obey God's Word.

4. Why can no one completely obey God's Word?

- Because we are all born into sin.

5. How do we live as Jesus lived?

- In complete obedience to the Father.
- Serving others and not serving ourselves.

6. Why can no Christian live a life without any sin?

- Because we live in a world that is full of sin.
- Because we have old habits and old ways that the Bible calls our flesh.

7. How is the old command to love one another a new command?

- It is new in the person of Jesus Christ.
- It is also new in all people who believe in Christ.

8. What is the world that we should not love?

- It is the world of evil which is against God and whose king is Satan.

9. What is an antichrist?

- An antichrist is someone who is against Christ and wants to take over from or take the place of Christ.
- All who are against Christ and want to take over from or take the place of Christ are antichrists.

Let's read 1 John 3:1-3

1-See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

2-Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

3-All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

-Because of the sin of Adam and Eve, all people are born as children of Satan.

-If we believe in the Lord Jesus, however, we become children of God.

-What does it mean to be a child of God?

-We have a father who put the sun, the moon, and the stars in the sky.

-We have a father who created the earth, the mountains, the trees, the rivers, the lakes, and all of the animals.

-We have a father who is completely perfect without sin.

-We have a father who loves us with an everlasting love.

-We have a father whom we can completely trust.

-We have a father who will never leave us.

-We have a father who will always do His best for us.

-We have a father who has given us eternity in heaven.

-What does it mean that when Christ appears, we shall be like Him?

-We will have no shame, but only honor.

-We will have no guilt, but only innocence.

-We will have no hurt, but only peace.

-We will have no sadness, but only joy.

-We will have no evil, but only goodness.

-We will never die, but live forever.

-We shall be like Christ in every way, except that He alone is God.

-When we have this hope in us, it makes us more pure.

Let's read 1 John 3:4-6

4-Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.

5-But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.

6-No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

-The key to understanding these verses is "keeps on sinning" or "continues to sin."

-All people, of course, have sinned, and our sin merits death.

-Yet, for the Christian, we do not keep on sinning or continue to sin.

-What is an important difference between Christians and non-Christians concerning sin?

-When Christians sin, they feel bad and ask God to help them not to continue in the sin.

-When non-Christians sin, they do not feel bad, and

continue on in the sin.

-God/Christ alone is more powerful than sin, and we Christians have Christ to keep us from sin.

-We must ask Christ to keep us from sin, and He will help us.

Let's read 1 John 3:7-10

7-Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

8-The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

9-No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God.

10-This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.

-Why should we not let anyone lead us astray?

-Because there are many false teachers.

-False teachers give false hope by teaching:

-False words.

-False way of being saved.

-False way to heaven.

-This is why the Word of God teaches us many times to watch out for false teachers.

-We should be like the Bereans who compared Paul's teaching to the Word of God to see if what Paul said was true (Acts 17:11).

-Are Christians righteous because we do what is right?

-No.

-How are Christians righteous?

-Because of the righteousness of Christ in us.

-It is the righteousness of Christ in us that causes us to do right.

-The Son of God, the Lord Jesus, came to pay for our sins, and thereby, destroy the work of Satan.

-As we learned in verse 6 above, verse 9 repeats the truth that no one who is born of God will continue to sin.

-This is the great difference between Christians and non-Christians.

-Either we are a child of God or a child of Satan.

Let's read 1 John 3:11-15

11-For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.

12-Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous.

13-Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you.

14-We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death.

15-Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.

-The Lord Jesus commands us to love one another, saying: "As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34).

-God commands His family to love one another as Christ Himself has loved us.

-Because Cain belonged to the family of Satan, he murdered his brother, Abel.

-Even though the world hates us Christians, God commands His family to love one another.

-Non-Christians pass from life to death because they reject God who alone gives life.

-Christians, however, have passed from death to life because Christ is our life.

-In John 14:6, Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life."

-If we hate a brother or sister in Christ, it is as if we have murdered them.

-In Matthew 5:21-22, the Lord Jesus said this:

21-"You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.'

22-But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment."

-This is why God asks us not to hate as hate is murder in God's eyes.

Let's read 1 John 3:16-18

16-This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

17-If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?

18-Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

- How is the Lord Jesus the best example of love?
- He sacrificed Himself on the cross so that we could live.
- The Word of God teaches us that we should follow the Lord Jesus' example and sacrifice ourselves for our brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Many people, including Christians, are selfish and think more about themselves than they do about others.
- But true love, however, is to deny yourself and pour your life into others.

Let's read 1 John 3:19-20

- 19-This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence:
- 20-If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.
- In these last verses of this chapter, God through John wants us to know that we belong to God.
- Why would the heart of a Christian condemn him?
- Because our faith in Christ is not strong.
- Even if, however, our heart condemns us, God in us is greater than our heart.

- This means that even if we have doubts from time to time, God is greater than our doubts.
- This means that even if we have fears from time to time, God is greater than our fears.
- Is God greater than our weaknesses?
- Yes.
- Instead of worrying about our weaknesses, we should remember that God is greater than our weaknesses.
- When we are weak, God is strong in us.
- In 2 Corinthians 12:10, Paul said this:
- “That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”
- Is God greater than our failures?
- Yes.
- Instead of worrying about our failures, we should remember that God is greater than our failures.
- While we may fail many times in our lives, our victory in life is our God.
- In Psalm 73:26, we read this:

-“My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

-Is God greater than our sins?

-Yes.

-Instead of worrying about our sins, we should remember that God is greater than our sins.

-God did not save us because we were without sin.

-God saved us because we were sinners.

-In Romans 5:8, we read this:

-“While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

-God is greater than our doubts.

-God is greater than our failures.

-God is greater than our guilt.

-God is greater than our shame.

-God is greater than our sin.

Let's read 1 John 3:21-22

21-Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God

22-and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him.

-Why would our hearts not condemn us?

-Because our faith in Christ is strong.

-Because we greatly understand that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Ro 8:1).

-We receive anything we ask from our God because when we are in the will of God, we ask only according to His will.

Let's read 1 John 3:23-24

23-And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.

24-The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

-God's greatest command is to believe in Christ.

-God's next greatest command is to love one another.

-When we are in Christ, it is the love of Christ in us that can love one another.

-And we know that Christ lives in us because God the Holy Spirit in us testifies to this truth.

-Romans 8:16: “The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.”