

# THE FIRST EPISTLE OF JOHN

WHAT WAS HEARD, SEEN,  
AND TOUCHED

**1** That <sup>a</sup>which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have <sup>b</sup>seen with our eyes, <sup>c</sup>which we have looked upon, and <sup>d</sup>our hands have handled, concerning the <sup>e</sup>Word of life—<sup>2f</sup>the life <sup>g</sup>was manifested, and we have seen, <sup>h</sup>and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was <sup>i</sup>with the Father and was manifested to us—<sup>3</sup>that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is <sup>j</sup>with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>And these things we write to you <sup>k</sup>that <sup>l</sup>your joy may be full.

FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM  
AND ONE ANOTHER

<sup>5</sup>This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that <sup>m</sup>God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. <sup>6n</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we <sup>o</sup>walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and <sup>p</sup>the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

<sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is

not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we <sup>q</sup>confess our sins, He is <sup>r</sup>faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to <sup>s</sup>cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we <sup>t</sup>make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

**2** My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, <sup>u</sup>we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup>And <sup>v</sup>He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but <sup>w</sup>also for the whole world.

THE TEST OF KNOWING HIM

<sup>3</sup>Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. <sup>4</sup>He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a <sup>x</sup>liar, and the truth is not in him. <sup>5</sup>But <sup>y</sup>whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God <sup>z</sup>is perfected <sup>z</sup>in him. By this we know that we are in Him. <sup>6a</sup>He who says he abides in Him <sup>b</sup>ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

<sup>7b</sup>Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had <sup>c</sup>from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard

<sup>1</sup>NU, M our <sup>2</sup>has been completed <sup>3</sup>NU Beloved

**1:1** <sup>a</sup>[John 1:1]; 1 John 2:13, 14 <sup>b</sup>Luke 1:2; John 1:14 <sup>c</sup>2 Pet. 1:16 <sup>d</sup>Luke 24:39; John 20:27 <sup>e</sup>[John 1:1, 4, 14] **1:2** <sup>f</sup>John 1:4; [1 John 3:5, 8; 5:20] <sup>g</sup>Rom. 16:26; 1 Tim. 3:16 <sup>h</sup>John 21:24 <sup>i</sup>[John 1:1, 18; 16:28] **1:3** <sup>j</sup>John 17:21; 1 Cor. 1:9; 1 John 2:24  
**1:4** <sup>k</sup>John 15:11; 16:24; 1 Pet. 1:8 **1:5** <sup>l</sup>John 1:19; 1 John 3:11 <sup>m</sup>[1 Tim. 6:16]; James 1:17 **1:6** <sup>n</sup>[John 8:12]; 2 Cor. 6:14; [1 John 2:9–11] **1:7** <sup>o</sup>Is. 2:5 <sup>p</sup>[1 Cor. 6:11] **1:9** <sup>q</sup>Ps. 32:5; Prov. 28:13 <sup>r</sup>[Rom. 3:24–26] <sup>s</sup>Ps. 51:2 **1:10** <sup>t</sup>John 3:33; 1 John 5:10 **2:1** <sup>u</sup>Rom. 8:34; 1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 7:25; 9:24 **2:2** <sup>v</sup>[Rom. 3:25]; Heb. 2:17; 1 John 4:10 <sup>w</sup>John 1:29  
**2:4** <sup>x</sup>Rom. 3:4 **2:5** <sup>y</sup>John 14:21, 23 <sup>z</sup>[1 John 4:12] **2:6** <sup>a</sup>John 15:4 <sup>b</sup>Matt. 11:29; John 13:15; 15:10; 1 Pet. 2:21 **2:7** <sup>c</sup>John 13:34; 1 John 3:11, 23; 4:21; 2 John 5

<sup>1</sup>from the beginning. <sup>8</sup>Again, <sup>d</sup>a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, <sup>e</sup>because the darkness is passing away, and <sup>f</sup>the true light is already shining.

<sup>9</sup>He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. <sup>10</sup><sup>h</sup>He who loves his brother abides in the light, and <sup>i</sup>there is no cause for stumbling in him. <sup>11</sup>But he who <sup>j</sup>hates his brother is in darkness and <sup>k</sup>walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

#### THEIR SPIRITUAL STATE

- <sup>12</sup> I write to you, little children,  
Because <sup>l</sup>your sins  
are forgiven you for  
His name's sake.
- <sup>13</sup> I write to you, fathers,  
Because you have  
known Him *who is*  
<sup>m</sup>from the beginning.
- I write to you, young men,  
Because you have overcome  
the wicked one.
- I write to you, little children,  
Because you have  
<sup>n</sup>known the Father.
- <sup>14</sup> I have written to you, fathers,  
Because you have  
known Him *who is*  
from the beginning.
- I have written to you,  
young men,  
Because <sup>o</sup>you are strong,  
and the word of God  
abides in you,  
And you have overcome  
the wicked one.

<sup>1</sup>NU omits *from the beginning* <sup>2</sup>NU omits *the*  
<sup>3</sup>NU *you all know*.

#### DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD

<sup>15</sup><sup>p</sup>Do not love the world or the things in the world. <sup>q</sup>If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup>For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, <sup>r</sup>the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. <sup>17</sup>And <sup>s</sup>the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

#### DECEPTIONS OF THE LAST HOUR

<sup>18</sup><sup>t</sup>Little children, <sup>u</sup>it is the last hour; and as you have heard that <sup>v</sup>the<sup>2</sup> Antichrist is coming, <sup>w</sup>even now many antichrists have come, by which we know <sup>x</sup>that it is the last hour. <sup>19</sup><sup>y</sup>They went out from us, but they were not of us; for <sup>z</sup>if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* <sup>a</sup>that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us.

<sup>20</sup>But <sup>b</sup>you have an anointing <sup>c</sup>from the Holy One, and <sup>d</sup>you<sup>3</sup> know all things. <sup>21</sup>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.

<sup>22</sup><sup>e</sup>Who is a liar but he who denies that <sup>f</sup>Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. <sup>23</sup><sup>g</sup>Whoever denies the Son does not have the <sup>h</sup>Father either; <sup>i</sup>he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

#### LET TRUTH ABIDE IN YOU

<sup>24</sup>Therefore let that abide in you <sup>j</sup>which <sup>b</sup>you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, <sup>k</sup>you also will abide in

**2:8** <sup>d</sup>John 13:34; 15:12 <sup>e</sup>Rom. 13:12; Eph. 5:8; 1 Thess. 5:4 <sup>f</sup>[John 1:9; 8:12; 12:35] **2:9** <sup>g</sup>[1 Cor. 13:2]; 1 John 3:14  
**2:10** <sup>h</sup>[1 John 3:14] <sup>i</sup>2 Pet. 1:10 **2:11** <sup>j</sup>[1 John 2:9; 3:15; 4:20] <sup>k</sup>John 12:35; 1 John 1:6 **2:12** <sup>l</sup>[1 Cor. 6:11] **2:13** <sup>m</sup>John 1:1;  
Rev. 22:13 <sup>n</sup>[Rom. 8:15–17; Gal. 4:6] **2:14** <sup>o</sup>Eph. 6:10 **2:15** <sup>p</sup>[Rom. 12:2]; Gal. 1:4; James 1:27 <sup>q</sup>Matt. 6:24; James 4:4  
**2:16** <sup>r</sup>[Eccl. 5:10, 11] **2:17** <sup>s</sup>1 Cor. 7:31; 1 Pet. 1:24 **2:18** <sup>t</sup>John 21:5 <sup>u</sup>Rom. 13:11; 1 Tim. 4:1; Heb. 1:2; 1 Pet. 4:7 <sup>v</sup>2 Thess. 2:3  
<sup>w</sup>Matt. 24:5, 24; 1 John 2:22; 4:3; 2 John 7 <sup>x</sup>1 Tim. 4:1 **2:19** <sup>y</sup>Deut. 13:13 <sup>z</sup>Matt. 24:24 <sup>aa</sup>1 Cor. 11:19  
**2:20** <sup>bb</sup>2 Cor. 1:21; Heb. 1:9; 1 John 2:27 <sup>cc</sup>Acts 3:14 <sup>dd</sup>Prov. 28:5; [John 16:13]; 1 Cor. 2:15, 16  
**2:22** <sup>ee</sup>2 John 7 <sup>ff</sup>1 John 4:3 **2:23** <sup>gg</sup>John 15:23 <sup>hh</sup>John 5:23 <sup>ii</sup>1 John 4:15; 5:1; 2 John 9  
**2:24** <sup>jj</sup>2 John 5, 6 <sup>kk</sup>John 14:23; 1 John 1:3; 2 John 9

the Son and in the Father. <sup>25</sup>And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life.

<sup>26</sup>These things I have written to you concerning those who *try to* deceive you. <sup>27</sup>But the <sup>m</sup>anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and <sup>n</sup>you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing <sup>o</sup>teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you <sup>2</sup>will abide in Him.

#### THE CHILDREN OF GOD

<sup>28</sup>And now, little children, abide in Him, that <sup>3</sup>when He appears, we may have <sup>p</sup>confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. <sup>29</sup>If you know that He is righteous, you know that <sup>r</sup>everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

**3** Behold <sup>s</sup>what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that <sup>t</sup>we should be called children of <sup>4</sup>God! Therefore the world does not know <sup>5</sup>us, <sup>u</sup>because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, <sup>v</sup>now we are children of God; and <sup>w</sup>it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, <sup>x</sup>we shall be like Him, for <sup>y</sup>we shall see Him as He is. <sup>3</sup><sup>2</sup>And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

#### SIN AND THE CHILD OF GOD

<sup>4</sup>Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and <sup>a</sup>sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>And you know <sup>b</sup>that He was manifested <sup>c</sup>to take away our sins, and <sup>d</sup>in Him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>Whoever abides in Him does not sin.

Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.

<sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. <sup>8</sup>He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, <sup>f</sup>that He might destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup>Whoever has been <sup>9</sup>born of God does not sin, for <sup>h</sup>His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

#### THE IMPERATIVE OF LOVE

<sup>10</sup>In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. <sup>11</sup>For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, <sup>i</sup>that we should love one another, <sup>12</sup>not as <sup>j</sup>Cain *who* was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

<sup>13</sup>Do not marvel, my brethren, if <sup>k</sup>the world hates you. <sup>14</sup>We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love <sup>6</sup>his brother abides in death. <sup>15</sup>Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that <sup>m</sup>no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

#### THE OUTWORKING OF LOVE

<sup>16</sup>By this we know love, <sup>o</sup>because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for

<sup>1</sup>lead you astray <sup>2</sup>NU omits will <sup>3</sup>NU if <sup>4</sup>NU adds And we are. <sup>5</sup>M you <sup>6</sup>NU omits his brother

**2:25** | John 3:14–16; 6:40; 17:2, 3; 1 John 1:2 **2:27** <sup>m</sup>[John 14:16; 16:13]; 1 John 2:20 <sup>n</sup>[Jer. 31:33] <sup>o</sup>[John 14:16; 1 Cor. 2:12]; 1 Thess. 4:9 **2:28** <sup>p</sup>Eph. 3:12; 1 John 3:21; 4:17; 5:14 **2:29** <sup>q</sup>Acts 22:14 <sup>r</sup>John 7:18; 1 John 3:7, 10 **3:1** <sup>s</sup>[John 3:16; Eph. 2:4–7; 1 John 4:10] <sup>t</sup>[John 1:12] <sup>u</sup>John 15:18, 21; 16:3 **3:2** <sup>v</sup>[Is. 56:5; Rom. 8:15, 16] <sup>w</sup>[Rom. 8:18, 19, 23] <sup>x</sup>Rom. 8:29; 2 Pet. 1:4 <sup>y</sup>[Ps. 16:11] **3:3** <sup>z</sup>1 John 4:17 **3:4** <sup>a</sup>Rom. 4:15; 1 John 5:17 **3:5** <sup>b</sup>1 John 1:2; 3:8 <sup>c</sup>[Is. 53:5, 6]; John 1:29; [2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 9:26] <sup>d</sup>[2 Cor. 5:21]; 1 John 2:29 **3:8** <sup>e</sup>Matt. 13:38; John 8:44; 1 John 3:10 <sup>f</sup>Luke 10:18; [Heb. 2:14] **3:9** <sup>g</sup>John 1:3; 3:3; [1 John 2:29; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18]; 3 John 11 <sup>h</sup>1 Pet. 1:23 **3:11** <sup>i</sup>[John 13:34; 15:12]; 1 John 4:7, 11, 21; 2 John 5 **3:12** <sup>j</sup>Gen. 4:4, 8 **3:13** <sup>k</sup>[John 15:18; 17:14] **3:15** <sup>l</sup>Matt. 5:21; John 8:44 <sup>m</sup>[Gal. 5:20, 21; Rev. 21:8] **3:16** <sup>n</sup>[John 3:16] <sup>o</sup>John 10:11; 15:13; Gal. 2:20

the brethren. <sup>17</sup>But <sup>p</sup>whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

<sup>18</sup>My little children, <sup>q</sup>let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. <sup>19</sup>And by this we <sup>r</sup>know <sup>r</sup>that we are of the truth, and shall <sup>s</sup>assure our hearts before Him. <sup>20</sup><sup>s</sup>For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, <sup>t</sup>we have confidence toward God. <sup>22</sup>And <sup>u</sup>whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments <sup>v</sup>and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. <sup>23</sup>And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ <sup>w</sup>and love one another, as He gave <sup>s</sup>us commandment.

#### THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH AND THE SPIRIT OF ERROR

<sup>24</sup>Now <sup>x</sup>he who keeps His commandments <sup>y</sup>abides in Him, and He in him. And <sup>z</sup>by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

**4** Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but <sup>a</sup>test the spirits, whether they are of God; because <sup>b</sup>many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>By this you know the Spirit of God: <sup>c</sup>Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, <sup>3</sup>and every spirit that does not confess <sup>d</sup>that Jesus <sup>5</sup>Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard

<sup>1</sup>NU shall know <sup>2</sup>persuade, set at rest <sup>3</sup>M omits us

<sup>4</sup>NU omits that <sup>5</sup>NU omits Christ has come in the flesh

was coming, and is now already in the world.

<sup>4</sup>You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than <sup>d</sup>he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup><sup>e</sup>They are of the world. Therefore they speak *as* of the world, and <sup>f</sup>the world hears them. <sup>6</sup>We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. <sup>9</sup>By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

#### KNOWING GOD THROUGH LOVE

<sup>7</sup><sup>h</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who <sup>i</sup>loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup><sup>j</sup>In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten <sup>k</sup>Son into the world, that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, <sup>l</sup>not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son <sup>m</sup>to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, <sup>n</sup>if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

#### SEEING GOD THROUGH LOVE

<sup>12</sup><sup>o</sup>No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. <sup>13</sup><sup>p</sup>By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And <sup>q</sup>we have seen and testify that <sup>r</sup>the Father has sent the Son *as* Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup><sup>s</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and <sup>t</sup>he who abides in love abides in God, and God <sup>u</sup>in him.

**3:17** <sup>p</sup>Deut. 15:7 **3:18** <sup>q</sup>Ezek. 33:31 **3:19** <sup>r</sup>John 18:37 **3:20** <sup>s</sup>[1 Cor. 4:4, 5] **3:21** <sup>t</sup>[Heb. 10:22; 1 John 2:28; 5:14] **3:22** <sup>u</sup>Ps. 34:15; [John 15:7]; 1 John 5:14, 15 <sup>v</sup>John 8:29; Heb. 13:21 **3:23** <sup>w</sup>Matt. 22:39 **3:24** <sup>x</sup>John 14:23 <sup>y</sup>John 14:21; 17:21 <sup>z</sup>John 14:17; Rom. 8:9, 14, 16; 1 Thess. 4:8; 1 John 4:13 **4:1** <sup>a1</sup>1 Cor. 14:29 <sup>b</sup>Matt. 24:5 **4:2** <sup>c</sup>[Rom. 10:8-10]; 1 Cor. 12:3; 1 John 5:1 **4:4** <sup>d</sup>John 14:30; 16:11 **4:5** <sup>e</sup>John 3:31 <sup>f</sup>John 15:19; 17:14 **4:6** <sup>g</sup>[1 Cor. 2:12-16] **4:7** <sup>h1</sup>John 3:10, 11, 23 <sup>h2</sup>1 Thess. 4:9; [1 John 3:14] **4:9** <sup>i</sup>Rom. 5:8 <sup>k</sup>Is. 9:6, 7; John 3:16 **4:10** <sup>l</sup>Titus 3:5 <sup>m1</sup>John 2:2 **4:11** <sup>n</sup>Matt. 18:33 **4:12** <sup>o</sup>John 1:18; 1 Tim. 6:16; 1 John 4:20 **4:13** <sup>p</sup>John 14:20 **4:14** <sup>q</sup>John 1:14 <sup>r</sup>John 3:17; 4:42; 1 John 2:2 **4:15** <sup>s</sup>[Rom. 10:9]; 1 John 3:23; 4:2; 5:1, 5 **4:16** <sup>t</sup>[1 John 3:24] <sup>u</sup>[John 14:23]

## THE CONSUMMATION OF LOVE

<sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that <sup>v</sup>we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup><sup>w</sup>We love <sup>1</sup>Him because He first loved us.

## OBEDIENCE BY FAITH

<sup>20</sup><sup>x</sup>If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, <sup>2</sup>how can he love God <sup>y</sup>whom he has not seen? <sup>21</sup>And <sup>2</sup>this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.

**5** Whoever believes that <sup>a</sup>Jesus is the Christ is <sup>b</sup>born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and <sup>c</sup>keep His commandments. <sup>3</sup><sup>d</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And <sup>e</sup>His commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For <sup>f</sup>whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that <sup>g</sup>has overcome the world—<sup>3</sup>our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is he who overcomes the world, but <sup>h</sup>he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

## THE CERTAINTY OF GOD'S WITNESS

<sup>6</sup>This is He who came <sup>i</sup>by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. <sup>j</sup>And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that bear witness <sup>4</sup>in heaven: the Father, <sup>k</sup>the Word, and

the Holy Spirit; <sup>1</sup>and these three are one. <sup>8</sup>And there are three that bear witness on earth: <sup>m</sup>the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

<sup>9</sup>If we receive <sup>n</sup>the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; <sup>o</sup>for this is the witness of <sup>5</sup>God which He has testified of His Son. <sup>10</sup>He who believes in the Son of God <sup>p</sup>has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God <sup>q</sup>has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. <sup>12</sup><sup>r</sup>He who has the Son has <sup>6</sup>life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup>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, <sup>7</sup>and that you may *continue* to believe in the name of the Son of God.

CONFIDENCE AND  
COMPASSION IN PRAYER

<sup>14</sup>Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that <sup>s</sup>if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. <sup>15</sup>And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

<sup>16</sup>If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin *which does not lead to death*, he will ask, and <sup>t</sup>He will give him life for those who commit sin not *leading to death*. <sup>u</sup>There is sin *leading to death*. <sup>v</sup>I do not say that he should pray about

<sup>1</sup>NU omits *Him* <sup>2</sup>NU *he cannot* <sup>3</sup>M *your* <sup>4</sup>NU, M omit the words from *in heaven* (v. 7) through *on earth* (v. 8). Only 4 or 5 very late mss. contain these words in Greek. <sup>5</sup>NU *God, that* <sup>6</sup>*Or the life* <sup>7</sup>NU omits the rest of v. 13.

**4:17** <sup>v</sup>[James 2:13]; 1 John 2:28 **4:19** <sup>w1</sup> John 4:10 **4:20** <sup>x</sup>[1 John 2:4] <sup>y1</sup> Pet. 1:8; 1 John 4:12 **4:21** <sup>z</sup>Lev. 19:18; [Matt. 5:43, 44; 22:39]; John 13:34 **5:1** <sup>a1</sup> John 2:22; 4:2, 15 <sup>b</sup>John 1:13 **5:2** <sup>c</sup>John 15:10; 2 John 6 **5:3** <sup>d</sup>John 14:15; 2 John 6 <sup>e</sup>Mic. 6:8; Matt. 11:30; 23:4 **5:4** <sup>f</sup>John 16:33 <sup>g1</sup> John 2:13; 4:4 **5:5** <sup>h1</sup> Cor. 15:57 **5:6** <sup>i</sup>John 1:31–34; [Eph. 5:26, 27] <sup>j</sup>[John 14:17] **5:7** <sup>k</sup>[John 1:1] <sup>l</sup>John 10:30 **5:8** <sup>m</sup>John 15:26 **5:9** <sup>n</sup>John 5:34, 37; 8:17, 18 <sup>o</sup>[Matt. 3:16, 17]; John 5:32, 37 **5:10** <sup>p</sup>[Rom. 8:16]; Gal. 4:6; Rev. 12:17 <sup>q</sup>John 3:18, 33; 1 John 1:10 **5:12** <sup>r</sup>[John 3:15, 36; 6:47; 17:2, 3] **5:14** <sup>s</sup>[1 John 2:28; 3:21, 22] **5:16** <sup>t</sup>Job 42:8 <sup>u</sup>[Matt. 12:31] <sup>v</sup>Jer. 7:16; 14:11

that. <sup>17w</sup>All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not *leading* to death.

KNOWING THE TRUE—  
REJECTING THE FALSE

<sup>18</sup>We know that <sup>x</sup>whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God <sup>y</sup>keeps<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

<sup>1</sup>guards <sup>2</sup>NU him

<sup>19</sup>We know that we are of God, and <sup>z</sup>the whole world lies *under the sway* of the wicked one.

<sup>20</sup>And we know that the <sup>a</sup>Son of God has come and <sup>b</sup>has given us an understanding, <sup>c</sup>that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. <sup>d</sup>This is the true God <sup>e</sup>and eternal life.

<sup>21</sup>Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

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**5:17** <sup>w1</sup> John 3:4 **5:18** <sup>x</sup>[1 Pet. 1:23]; 1 John 3:9 <sup>y</sup>James 1:27 **5:19** <sup>z</sup>John 12:31; 17:15; Gal. 1:4 **5:20** <sup>a1</sup> John 4:2  
<sup>b</sup>Luke 24:45 <sup>c</sup>John 17:3; Rev. 3:7 <sup>d</sup>Is. 9:6 <sup>e1</sup> John 5:11, 12