

I John Chapter Two

Seven Contrasts

1. Light vs Darkness
2. Father vs the World
3. Christ vs the Antichrist
4. Good Works vs Evil Works
5. Holy Spirit vs Error
6. Love vs Pious Pretense
7. Born Again vs All Others

Seven Tests of the Believer

1. Our Profession
2. Our Desire
3. Our Doctrine
4. Our Conduct
5. Our Discernment
6. Our Motive
7. Our New Birth

Heptadic Structure

- Seven Reasons for the Epistle was Written.
- Seven Traits of the Born Again
- Seven Tests of Genuine Christianity
- Seven Test of Honesty and Reality

Six Lies

1. Fellowship with Him but walk in darkness we lie.
2. Say we have no sin – make Him a liar.
3. I know Him, yet do not keep commandments – liar.
4. All who deny Christ are liars and of the Antichrist.
5. If I say I love God – hate my brother – liar.
6. If not the revelation (record) of God I make Him a liar

Seven Reasons for the Epistle was Written.

1. Joy (1 John 1:3)
2. Fellowship (1John 1:4)
3. That you may not Sin. (1 John 2:1)
4. To know that your sins are forgiven. (1 John 2: 13-17)
5. That you may know the truth. (1 John 2:21-24)
6. To avoid deception. (1 John 2:26)
7. To believe on the Son of God and have eternal life (1 John 5:13)

Epistle was written at a time when the deity of Christ was a major issue within the church. It is in our day!

John wants to know: Are you really saved? How do you know?

2 Tim 1:12

For this reason I also suffer these things, but I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed and I am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him ^[a]until that day.

I John 5:13

These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word KNOW is used 39 times in this Epistle. Refers to “experiential” knowledge, not abstract.

VS 1 3rd Reason Epistle was written – that you SIN NOT

Rev 12:10

Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God, day, and night.

Hebrews 7: 25

Therefore, He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make **intercession** for them.

VS 2 Propitiation – satisfied, appeased, paid in full – for sins of the whole world.

VS 3 Keep His Commandments -more than 10 commandments –

Note 1 Thess 5:12 - 22

Therefore **comfort** each other and **edify** one another, just as you also are doing.¹² And we urge you, brethren, to **recognize those** who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, ¹³ and to **esteem them** very highly in love for their work’s sake. Be at **peace** among yourselves.¹⁴ Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, **comfort** the fainthearted, **uphold the weak**, be **patient** with all. ¹⁵ See **that no one renders evil for evil** to anyone, but always **pursue what is good** both for yourselves and for all.¹⁶ **Rejoice always**, ¹⁷ **pray without ceasing**, ¹⁸ in everything **give thanks**; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.¹⁹ **Do not quench the Spirit**. ²⁰ **Do not despise prophecies**. ²¹ **Test all things**; hold fast what is good. ²² **Abstain** from every form of evil.

There are 30 Commandments like this in the NT.

We obey out of love not duty.

VS 4 If we do not obey, we are a liar (third of six liar comments)

VS 5 Keeping His word reveals we know Him and are in Him – God’s perfected love – all of this is of the heart.

Charles Spurgeon: *“An unchanged life is the sign of an unchanged heart”*

1 John 2:15-29

Love Not the World

What is John talking about – God loved the world (John 3:16). Is this a contradiction?

John is referring to the fall world system that us under the control of Satan.

- In opposition to Christ
- In opposition to Godliness
- In opposition to Righteousness

I John 5:19 – “The whole world lies under the control of the evil one.”

Luke 4:6 – Satan tempts Jesus, “all these (kingdoms of the world) are mine.

John 12:3 – “the prince of this world (Satan).”

Eph 6:11-12 – Satan’s kingdom is organized with powers, principalities, etc.

Why We Are Told Not to Love the World

1. Because of what the world is – fallen, Satanic, in rebellion towards, God, etc.
2. Because of what a Christian is – Citizen of Heaven (Phil 3:20)
3. Because of what the World does to us – hates us and persecutes us.
4. Because of where the world is going – The lake of fire (Revelation 19:20)

The Worlds Condition without God

- Eph 2:1-2 – all unsaved people are under dominion of Satan and belong to “this world system”.
- The World (fallen humanity) did not understand Jesus or receive Him. (Born Again)
- Although we are part of the human race and in this world, we are actually not “of this world.” (Hebrews 11: 13-16)
- James 4:4 “Friendship with the world is enmity with God.”

VS 16 – three things that can entrap Christians (Genesis 3)

- Lust of the Eyes
- Lust of the Flesh
- Boastful Pride of Life

The Flesh – fallen nature.

- Romans 7:18 – “For I know that in me (my flesh) dwells no good thing.
- John 6:63 – “It is the Spirit that give life, the flesh profits nothing.”
- Phil 3:3 – “rejoice in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh.”
- Romans 13:14 – “Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh and the lusts thereof.
- Galatians 5:16-21 – the works of the flesh are these...
- Colossians 3:5-9 – put off the “old self.”

Lust of the Eyes

- Job 31:1 ““I have made a covenant with my eyes; How then could I gaze at a virgin?
- Ps 119:37 “Turn away my eyes from beholding vanity...”
- Eyes are Satan’s Portal to the heart; Ears are God’s portal to the heart.
 - Eve “saw” that the fruit was good for...
 - Hear of Israel...
 - Hebrews 4:12 – word pierces the heart.
- Achan – saw, coveted, hid, exposed, consequence. (Joshua 7:21)

Pride of Life – exalting self above others and God – first sin of Satan

- Isaiah 14:12-14 Five times the personal pronoun “I” is referenced.
- Ezekiel 28:12-17 – your heart was proud, and you were corrupted.
- Proverbs 16:18 – pride goes before destruction.
- James 4:6 - God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

VS 17 – world is passing away.

1. Matthew 24:35 – heaven and earth will pass away.
2. 2 Peter 3: 10 – heaven and earth will pass away with a roar consumed by fire.
3. Revelation 21:1 – and I saw a new heaven and a new earth.

Avoid this Progression!

- Friendship with the world – James 3:4
- Spotted by the world – James 1:27
- Love the world – 1 John 2:17
- Conformed to this world – Rom 2:2
- Condemned with the world – 1 Cor 11:13

Example of Lot -Gen 13: 5-13

- Looked toward Sodom – attraction.
- Moved to Sodom – spotted.
- Leader in Sodom – loved, tolerated, conformed.
- Suffered in conscience among the wicked and ungodly.
- Condemned when God Judged Sodom – lost all he had.

Romans 12:1-2

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, ^[a]acceptable to God, *which is* your ^[b]spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this ^[c]world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may ^[d]prove what the will of God is, that which is good and ^[e]acceptable and perfect.

Three Contrasts Here

1. Light and Darkness – Chapter one
2. Love and Hatred – Chapter two, first half.
3. Truth and Error – Chapter two second half

Christians are to:

- Walk in light,
- Walk in love and
- Walk in truth.

VS 18 ANTICHRIST – in place of Christ – began in Genesis 3

Only John uses the term Antichrist and only in 1 John 1 and 2; not in Revelation.

- False Teachers
- False Righteousness
- False Religion
- False Leader

Those of the Antichrist will:

- Depart from Fellowship vs 18-19 – evidence of Antichrist.
- Deny the Faith vs 20-25 – deny Jesus is the Christ.
- Deceive the Faithful vs 26-29 – seduction.

Discerning Counterfeits

VS 27 – the Anointing teaches us all things in truth, no lie – John 16:13-15

VS 28 – Abiding in Him – John 15, vine, and branches.

VS 29 – Do righteousness – 2 Corinthians 5:21