



# 1 JOHN

## **Walking in the Light (1 John 1:5-2:6)**

# 1 John 1:5-2:6 (ESV)

- <sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.
- <sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
- <sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

# 1 John 1:5-2:6 (ESV)

- **2** My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. <sup>2</sup> He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
- <sup>3</sup> And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. <sup>4</sup> Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, <sup>5</sup> but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected.
- By this we may know that we are in him: <sup>6</sup> whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

# Introduction: “God is Light”

- “This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all” (1 John 1:5)
- “**Light**” indicates . . .
  - Holiness
  - Righteousness
  - Justice
  - Luminosity: “emitting self-generated light”
- **Darkness** indicates . . .
  - Sinfulness [pointed away from the God-standard]

# I. The Light Exposes Our Sinfulness

- “If we say we have fellowship with him **while we walk in darkness, we lie** and do not practice the truth”(1 John 1:6).
- “fellowship”: walking alongside another
- Satan: “The Father of Lies”
- “**walk in darkness**”: we do what Satan attempts to have us do
- “But while they were gorging themselves on the meat—while it was still in their mouths—the anger of the LORD blazed against the people, and he struck them with a severe plague. <sup>34</sup> So that place was called Kibroth-hattaavah (which means “**graves of gluttony**”) because there they buried the people who had craved meat from Egypt” (Numbers 11:33-34 NLT)

# I. The Light Exposes Our Sinfulness

- “If we say we have no sin, **we deceive ourselves**, and the truth is not in us” (1 John 1:8).
- **Nathan said to David**, “You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup> And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. <sup>9</sup> Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. <sup>10</sup> Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’ (2 Samuel 12:7-10 ESV)

# I. The Light Exposes Our Sinfulness

- **“If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us”** (1 John 1:10 ESV).
- **“For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”** (Romans 3:22-23)
- **“Whoever says ‘I know him’ but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him”** (1 John 2:4 ESV).
- **“If you love me, you will keep my commandments”** (Jesus speaking, John 14:15 ESV).

## II. The Light Enables Our Righteousness

- **Jesus Is Our Advocate:**
- “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have **an advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous” (1 John 2:1).
- “The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, <sup>24</sup> but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. <sup>25</sup> Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives **to make intercession for them**” (Hebrews 7:23-25).

## II. The Light Enables Our Righteousness

- **Jesus Already Paid the Price for Our Sin**
- “the **blood** of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin” (1 John 1:7b)
- “He is the **propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world” (1 John 2:2).
- “He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but **by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption**” (Hebrews 9:12).

## II. The Light Enables Our Righteousness

- **Confession is Followed by Forgiveness and “Cleansing”**
- “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just **to forgive** us our sins, and **to cleanse** us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).
- Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman whom he had married, for he had married a Cushite woman. . . When the cloud removed from over the tent, behold, Miriam was leprous, like snow. And Aaron turned toward Miriam, and behold, she was leprous. <sup>11</sup> And Aaron said to Moses, “Oh, my lord, do not punish us because we have done foolishly and have sinned. . . So Miriam was shut outside the camp seven days, and the people did not set out on the march till Miriam was brought in again. (Numbers 12:1,10-11, 15).

## II. The Light Enables Our Righteousness

- “Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD:  
“**though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;**  
though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool” (Isaiah 1:18).
- Arise, shine, **for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**  
<sup>2</sup> For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.  
<sup>3</sup> And **nations shall come to your light,**  
and kings to the brightness of your rising. (Isaiah 60:1-3)

## II. The Light Enables Our Righteousness

- **Keeping God's Commandments as Sign of Our Righteousness**
- <sup>3</sup> And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.
- <sup>5</sup> but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: <sup>6</sup> whoever says he abides in him ought to **walk in the same way in which he walked**. (1 John 2:3-6)
- “Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, **“I am the light of the world**. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life” (John 8:12).

# “God is Light”

- **The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ:**
- “And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> And he was transfigured before them, and **his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light**” (Matthew 17:1-2).

# III. The Light Empowers Our Fellowship

- “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, **we have fellowship with one another**” (1 John 1:7).
- **Pray for each other**
- “Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing **to pray for you**” (1 Samuel 12:23).
- “In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup> and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, **making supplication for all the saints**” (Ephesians 6:16-18).

A silhouette of two hands holding a glowing cross against a sunset background. The hands are positioned in the center-right of the frame, with the fingers spread and the palms facing each other. A bright, glowing cross is centered between the hands, emitting a strong light that creates a lens flare effect. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and spiritual.

**Let Us Pray**