

1 JOHN 2 vs 1

KJV-lite™ VERSES

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¹ My little children, I write to you these things, that you do **not** sin.

But if anyone sins / man or woman; if any falls short, makes a mistake, or missed the mark, something we do every day; even our last day. In this very imperfect, broken world, I will still need the great he great Suffering Servant sent by God to help His people to lead me home,

if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father / a Comforter, who fortifies; the Spirit of God who is present; one who adds their voice; one who will speak up should any accuser object,



Jesus Christ the righteous one / hearing His Name, makes me want to shout: **Hallelujah!**

² **And He is the propitiation for our sins** / He is what? in Greek: **hilasmos**, akin to **hilasterion**. He validated God is right; allowing sinners to regain favor with Him; people 2,000 years ago were smart; these words meant something to them.. describing a cumulative debt on the ledger of mankind, that could not be paid in a million years. So, the Lord of glory came and paid in full with His blood:

He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins: and not for ours only,

but also for the sins of the whole world / to Adam and Eve, God generously said enjoy all the goodness of His creation; of every tree in the Garden you may freely eat. With over 100,000 species of fruit trees, Adam and Eve soon discovered there was a healthy variety... of delicious fruit trees to add to all the shrubs filled with berries, along with all the vegetables growing in the Garden... fresh for lunch every day.

Then the Lord put a circle around **one tree** which was off limits; and He added a fair warning: they were not to eat of it, for in that day they will ~~surely~~ die. Now, some might object to this seeming uneven consequence for such a little infraction. But as C. S. Lewis pointed out, since they were created to live forever, such a little error unchecked after a million years might not look so little.

He who knew no sin came and substituted His life... even as envious religious leaders despised and rejected him, preferring their people's choice that day. Moses said, **if any commit a sin worthy of death, hang him on a tree... for he that is hanged is cursed of God** – Deut.21. Jesus, who knew no sin legally, not by default, not by failure to fulfill a contract, but de facto... became sin for all mankind; as they nailed Him to the tree. His death **propitiated** His Father who when He speaks, always speaks truth: and His life entrusted to His Father **expiated** and compensated for sinners... covering in full their debt.

³ **And here is how we know that we know him** / this phrase recalls why students go to school... to know that they know, as confidently as we know anything; John wants us to know what lessons Jesus, the great Teacher taught them... because John knew... what Jesus knew is the necessary facts and information giving them the ability to act and walk confidently... in a way that feelings and opinions do not,

And here is how we know that we know him...

if we keep His instructions / **tereo** = **to guard**, one of the two assignments the Lord told Adam to do in the Garden; something Adam did not do. But it is comforting to know Jesus assures the Philadelphia church as the time of the Gentiles ends, who listened to Him and did what He said to do..

this verse recalls what Jesus repeatedly reminded those around him **the night He was betrayed**: He said, by this all will know that you are My disciples. 12 times Jesus said, keep my words; keep my instructions.

4 He who says, I know Him, and does not keep His instructions / is a liar, and the truth is not in him / if he does not guard God's words, he can claim whatever he wants; he still is a liar,

5 But the one who keeps His word, in him truly is the love of God perfected **this is how we know that we are in him** / in other words: whoever does what Jesus said to do, because what the Teacher taught was not rocket science; Jesus taught lessons of the heart... not lessons of the heartless; in him the love of God is brought to maturity; in that one the love of God has finally blossomed:

6 He who says he abides in him, ought himself also to walk, even as He walked / the one who says: he found his home in the ways of the Lord; will walk step by step, upright, and in joy and peace.

7 Brothers and sisters, I write no new instruction to you, but an old instruction which you had from the beginning.

The old instruction is the word which you heard from the beginning / when He who was in the beginning with the God, came and said, I will build My church.

8 Again, a new instruction I write to you, which is true in Him and in you: because the darkness is past and the true light now shines. / the time for sitting and stumbling around in dreary darkness is behind us,

9 He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness even until now / sounding no different than any greasy politician... or anyone half-heartedly reading a well-crafted speech; even a speech printed in a Sunday bulletin or projected on a screen; / John says, lip service is still cheap.

10 He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no occasion of stumbling in him / he will continue in the light and live in the light,

11 But he who hates his brother [1] is in darkness, and [2] walks in darkness, and [3] knows not where he goes, because [4] that darkness has blinded his eyes / so the one who hates his brother or sister... is devoid of light, not receiving, not reflecting, not transmitting, not radiating light.

12 I write to you, little children, since your sins are forgiven on account of His name / John reminds us: all our missteps and catastrophes large and small, have all been **forgiven**; pardoned, released, and abandoned like trash... taken to the curb and let go; **solely because of Jesus**.