Soteriology

Session 49



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Soteriology Overview

I. Definition
II. Election
III. Atonement
IV. Salvation words
V. God's one condition of salvation
VI. Results of salvation
VII. Eternal security
VIII. Faulty views of salvation

Soteriology Overview

This Session

VII. Eternal Security



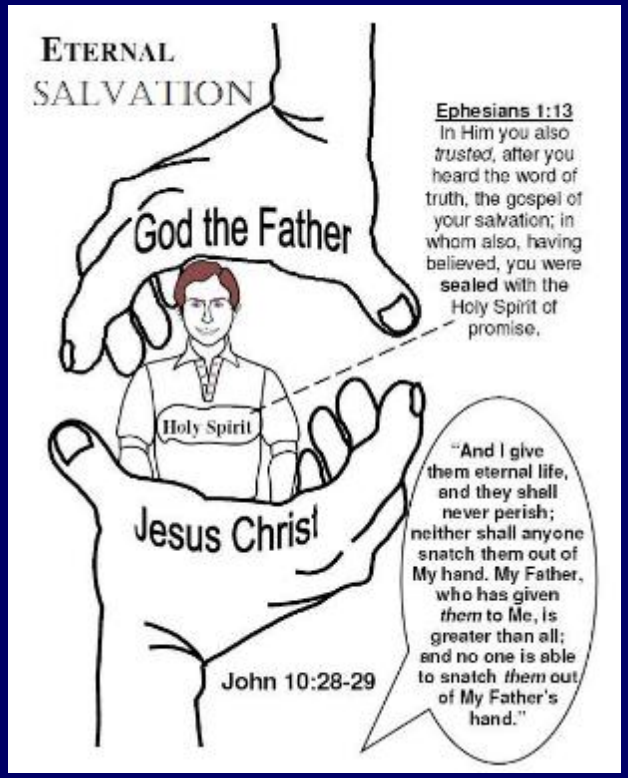


Definition of Eternal Security

"Eternal Security means that those who have been *genuinely saved* **by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone** shall never be in danger of God's condemnation or loss of salvation but God's grace and power keep them forever saved and secure."

Dennis Rokser, *Shall Never Perish Forever*, p. 11

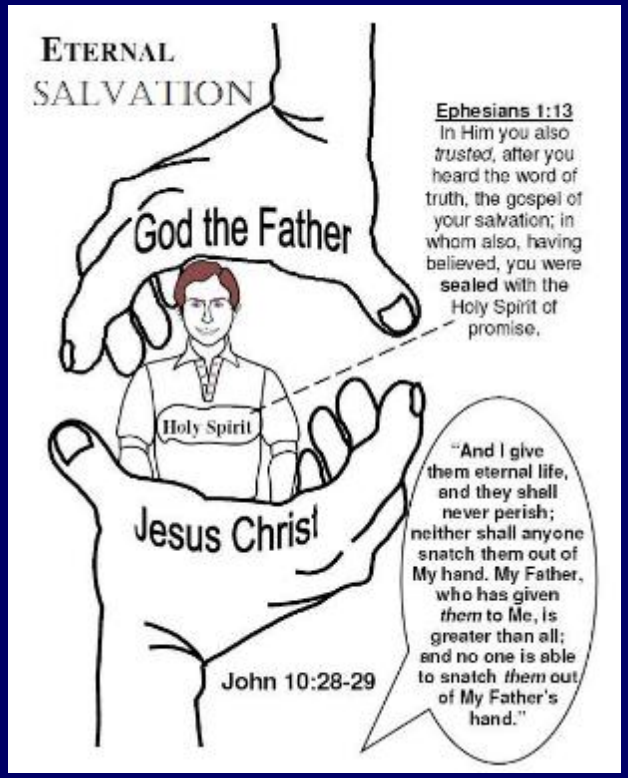
Eternal Security Outline



1. Eternal security arguments
2. Response to problem passages



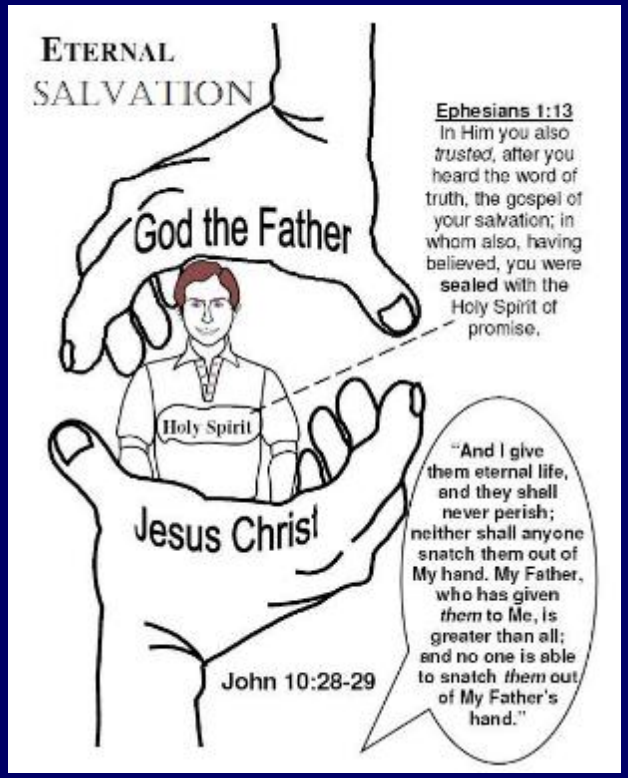
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Eternal Security Outline



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Response to Problem Passages

1. OT Passages
2. Passages from Matthew
3. Passages from John
4. Passages from Acts
5. Passages from Paul



Response to Problem Passages

6. Passages from James
7. Passages from Hebrews
8. Passages from 2 Peter
9. Passages from 1 John
10. Passages from Revelation
11. Miscellaneous argument



Passages from the General Letters & Revelation

a. Jas. 5:19-20

b. Heb. 3:6, 14

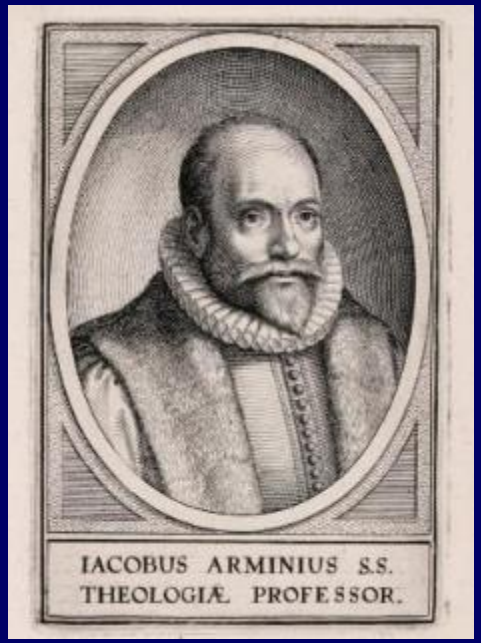
c. Heb. 5:9-10

d. Heb. 6:4-6

e. Heb. 10:26-30

f. Heb. 12:14

g. 2 Pet. 1:10-11, 20-22



h. Jude 11

i. 1 John 2:3

j. 1 John 3:9

k. 1 John 3:15

l. 1 John 5:16

m. Rev. 3:5

n. Rev. 22:18-19

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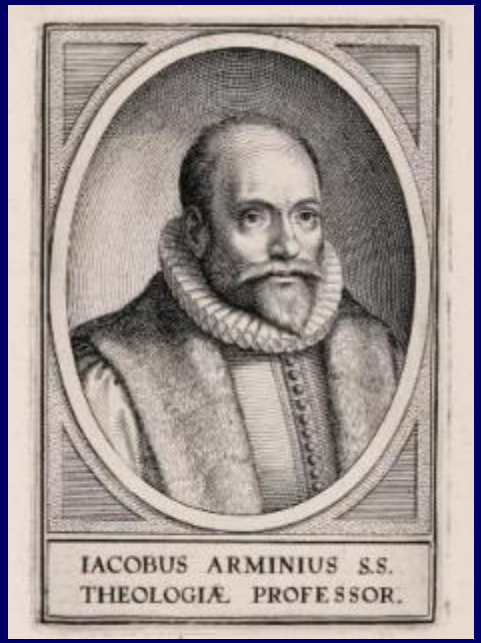
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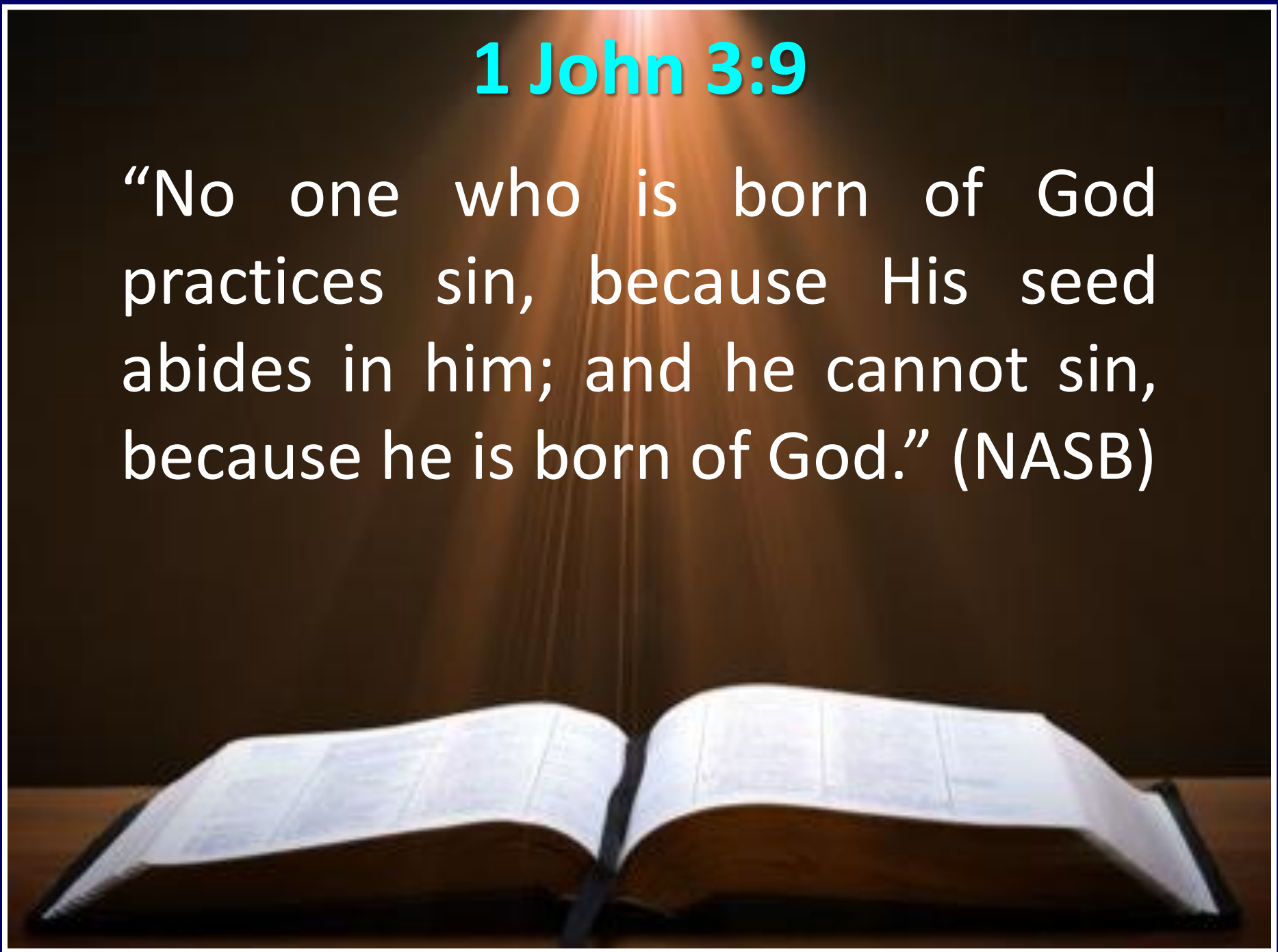
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1 John 3:9

“No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.” (NASB)



1 John 3:9

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II. The believer cannot habitually practice sin?

   A. Misuse of the present tense

   B. Book ends (1 John 1:9; 5:16)

   C. Biblical examples

   D. Practical problem

   E. Denial of the assurance of salvation

III. Better solution: fellowship focus

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   A. 1 John 2:28ff; 3:6, 7

   B. 1 John 3:9



Dennis Rokser, *Shall Never Perish Forever*, p. 277-87

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W. Hall Harris III,

1, 2, 3 John: Comfort and Counsel for a Church in Crisis (Biblical Studies Press, 2003), 143.

"A popular interpretation of these verses distinguishes between occasional sin (which every Christian commits) and a continuing lifestyle of sin, which a genuine Christian cannot pursue. Appeal is usually made to the present tense to support this view. The Greek present tense describes ongoing action (action in progress). **The problem with this view is that the author of 1 John does not appear to distinguish anywhere else between lifestyle of sin and occasional acts of sin.** Also, to make a significant interpretive point on the basis of the Greek text alone is extremely subtle. One can only wonder whether John's readers would've gotten the point."

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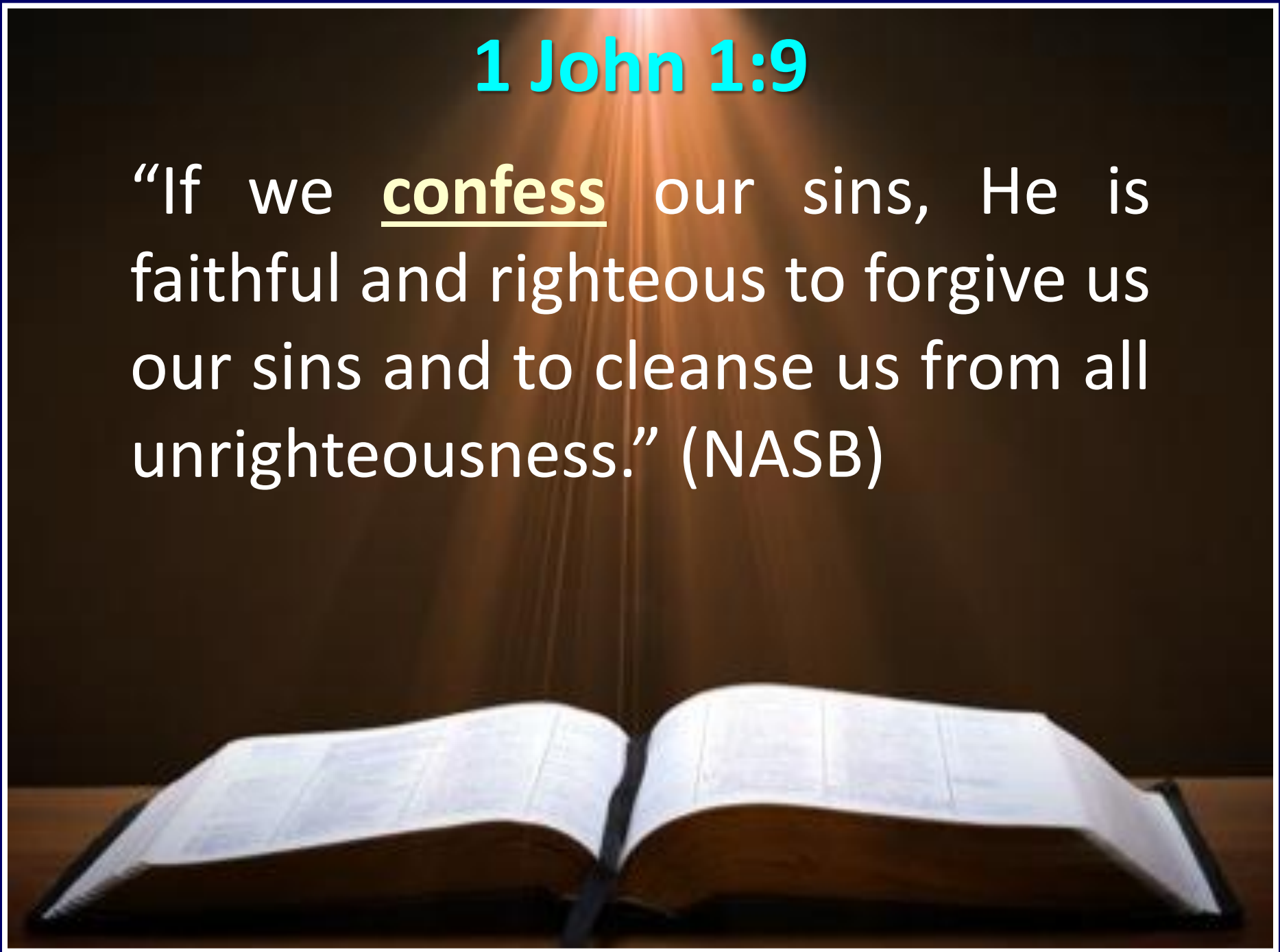
B. 1 John 3:9



Dennis Rokser, *Shall Never Perish Forever*, p. 277-87

1 John 1:9

"If we **confess** our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (NASB)



1 John 5:16

"If anyone sees his brother **committing a sin** not *leading* to death, he shall ask and *God* will for him give life to those who commit sin not *leading* to death. There is a sin *leading* to death; I do not say that he should make request for this." (NASB)



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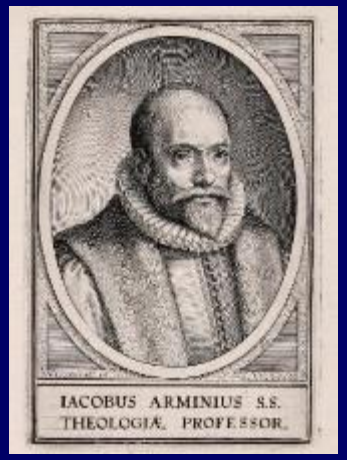
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Sinning Believers

- Abraham – lying
- Moses – uncontrolled anger
- David – adultery and murder (2 Sam. 11)
- Peter – threefold denial and legalism (Gal. 2:11-14)
- Never repented
  - Lot (2 Pet. 2:7-8; Gen. 19:30-38)
  - Solomon (1 Kings 11)
  - Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11)
  - Corinthians (1 Cor. 11:30-32)



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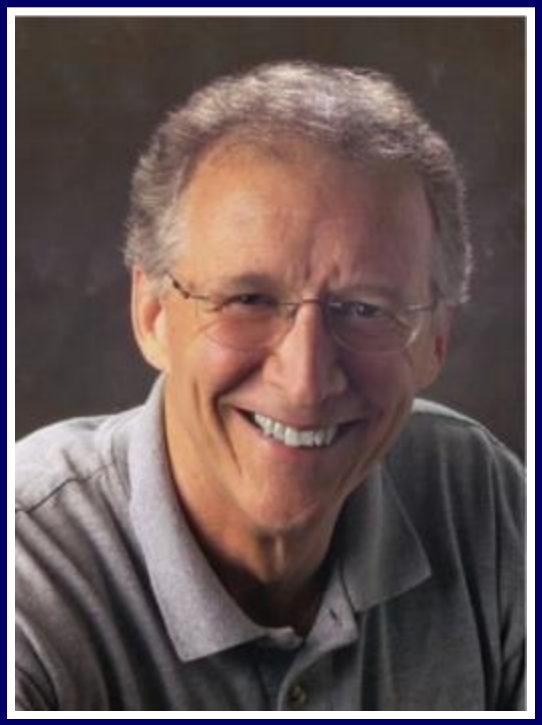
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John Piper



"No Christian can be sure that he is a true believer. Hence, there is an ongoing need to be dedicated to the Lord and to deny ourselves so that we might make it."

John Piper and Pastoral Staff, TULIP: What We Believe about the Five Points of Calvinism: Position Paper of the Pastoral Staff (Desiring God Ministries, 1997), 25, cited in Dave Hunt, *What Love is This?*, 379.

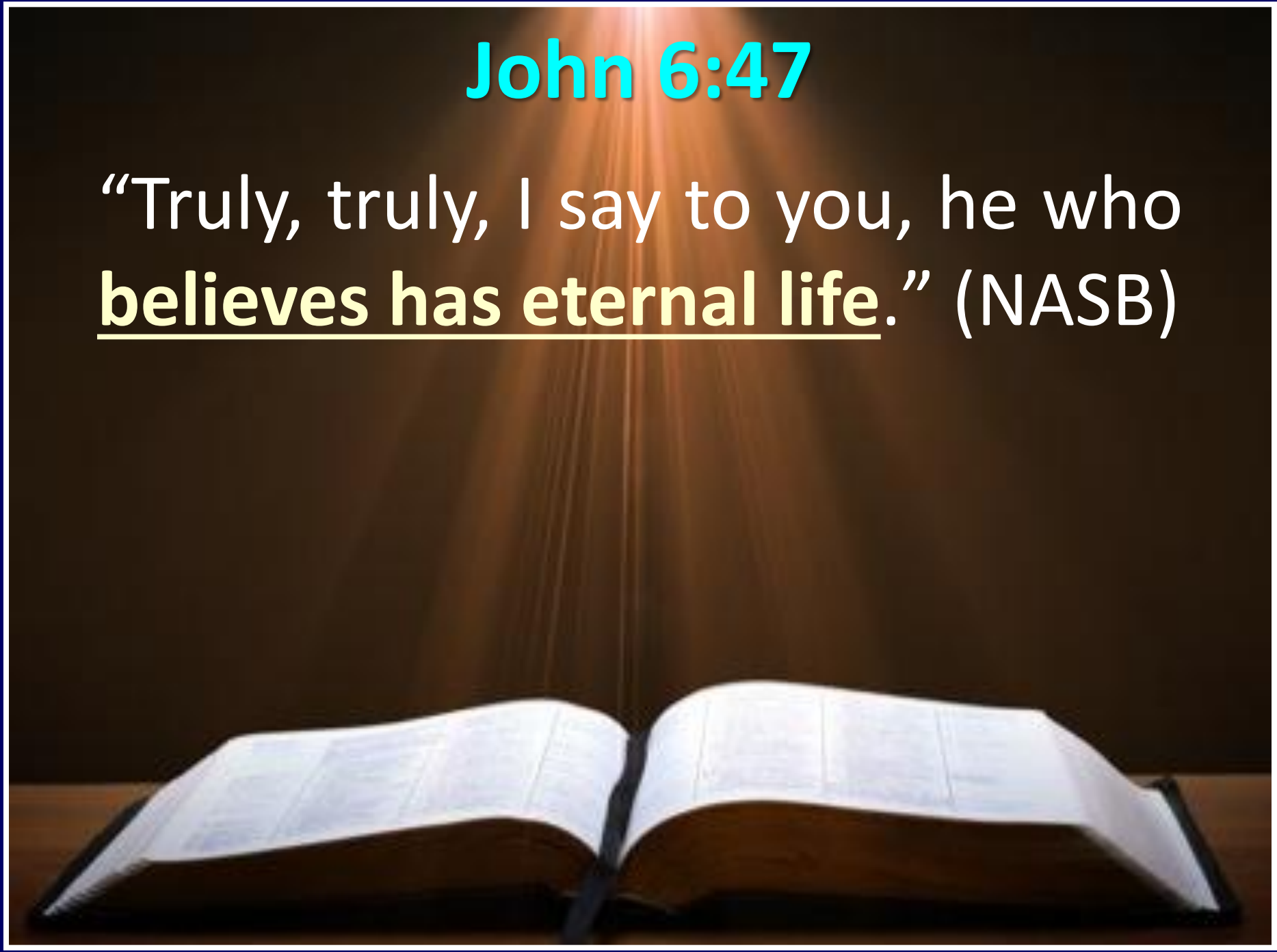
John 5:24

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and **believes Him** who sent Me, **has eternal life**, and does not come into judgment, but **has passed out** of death into life." (NASB)



John 6:47

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who **believes has eternal life**." (NASB)



DTS Doctrinal Statement

Article XI—Assurance

"We believe it is the privilege, not only of some, but of **all** by the Spirit through faith who are born again in Christ as revealed in the Scriptures, to be **assured** of their salvation from the **very day** they take Him to be their Savior and that this assurance is **not** founded upon any fancied discovery of their own **worthiness** or fitness, but wholly upon the testimony of God in His **written Word**, exciting within His children filial love..."

1 John 3:9

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Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

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Believing Audience

- 1 John 1:4; 2 John 12 – Loss of joy
- 1 John 1:8 – “We”
- 1 John 2:1, 18, 28; 3:2, 7, 18; 5:21 – Children of God
- 1 John 2:12-14 – Eight descriptions
- 1 John 2:20, 27 – Have the Spirit’s anointing
- 1 John 2:28; 2 John 8 – Loss of reward

Believing Audience

- 1 John 3:1-2 – Those who will be like Him
- 1 John 3:2, 21; 4:1, 7, 11 – Beloved ones in the faith
- 1 John 3:13 – My brothers
- 1 John 4:4 – Born of God
- 1 John 4:13 – Possessing the Holy Spirit

1 John 1:3-4

“what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have **fellowship** with us; and indeed our **fellowship** is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 These things we write, so that our **joy** may be made complete.” (NASB)



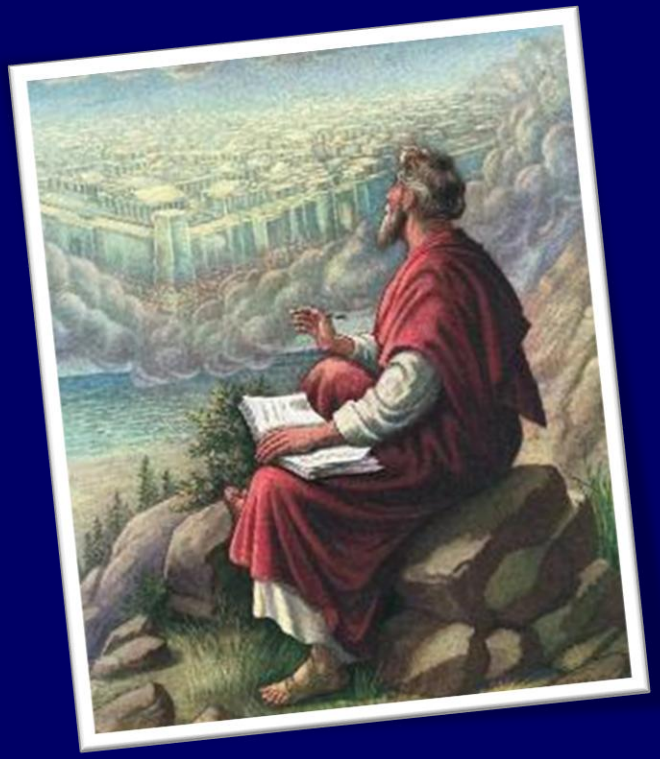
John 15:4-5

"**Abide** in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it **abides** in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you **abide** in Me. [5] I am the vine, you are the branches; he who **abides** in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.." (NASB)



	Gospel of John	First John
Believe	99 times	6 times
Abide	Many times in a much longer book	21 times
Purpose	20:30-31	1:3-4

John 20:30-31



"Therefore many other **signs** Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may **believe** that **Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God**; and that **believing** you may have **life** in His name."

1 John 1:3-4

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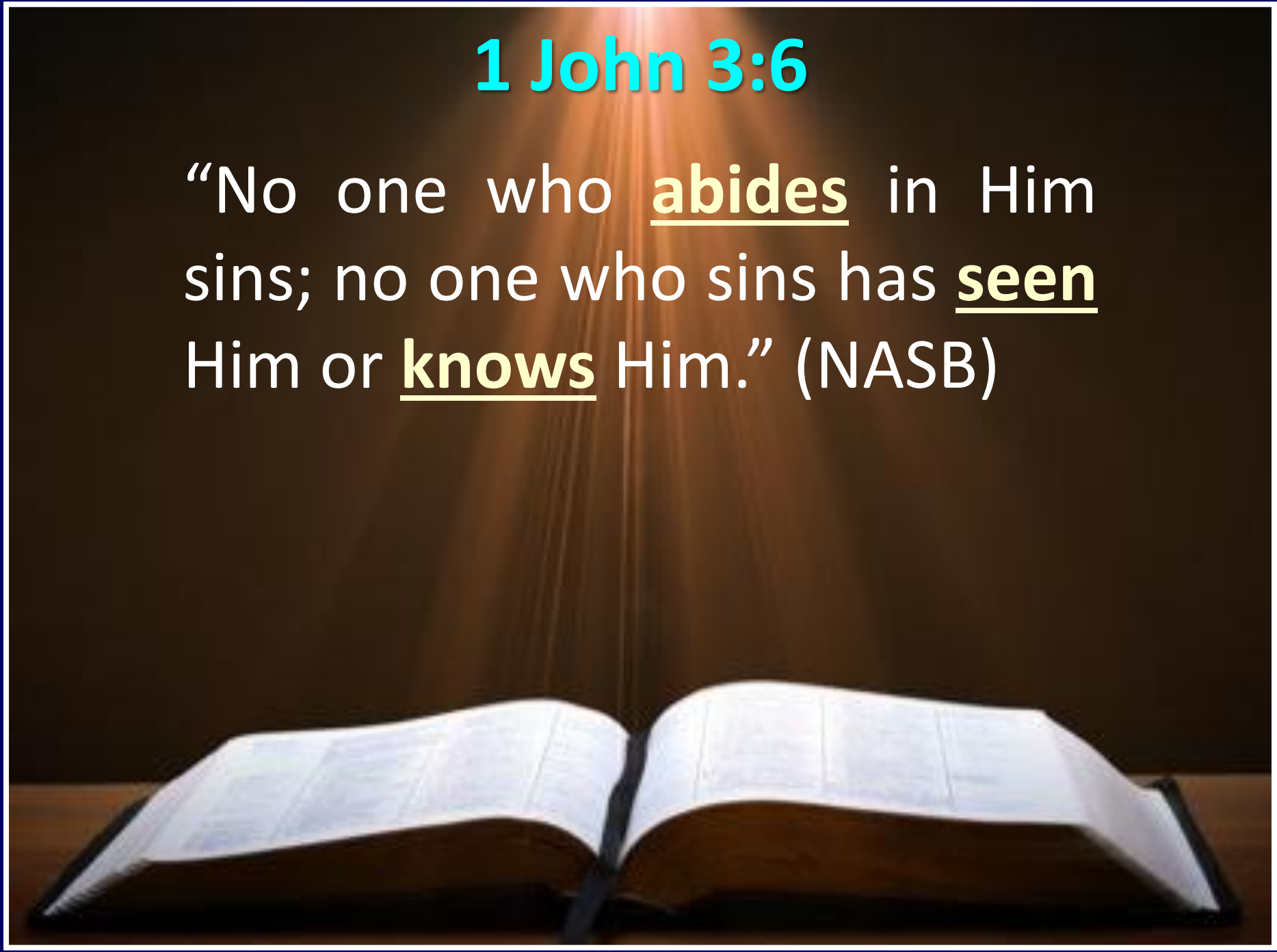
1 John 2:28-29

"Now, little children, **abide** in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming." (NASB)



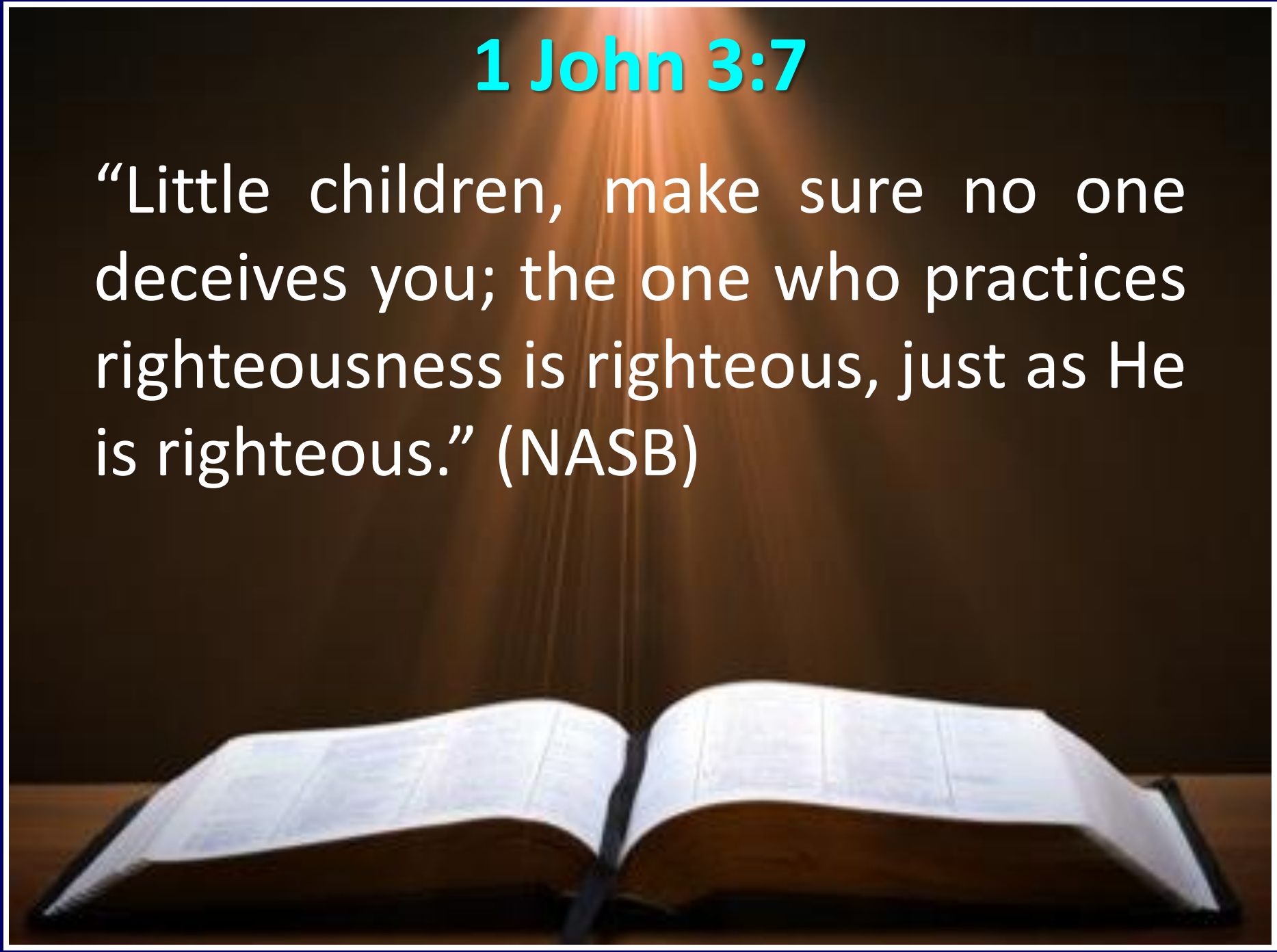
1 John 3:6

"No one who **abides** in Him sins; no one who sins has **seen** Him or **knows** Him." (NASB)



1 John 3:7

“Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.” (NASB)



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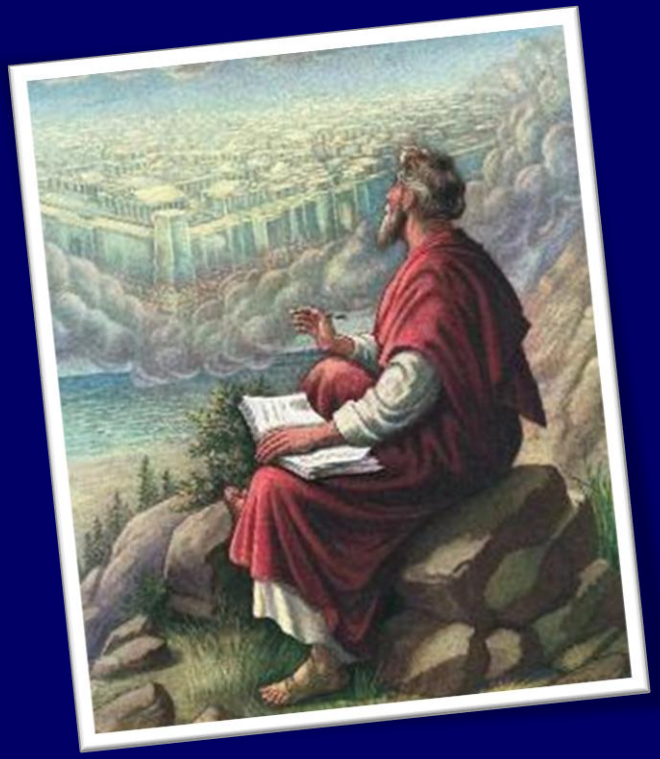


2 Peter 1:3-4

“seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. 4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become **partakers of *the* divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.” (NASB)

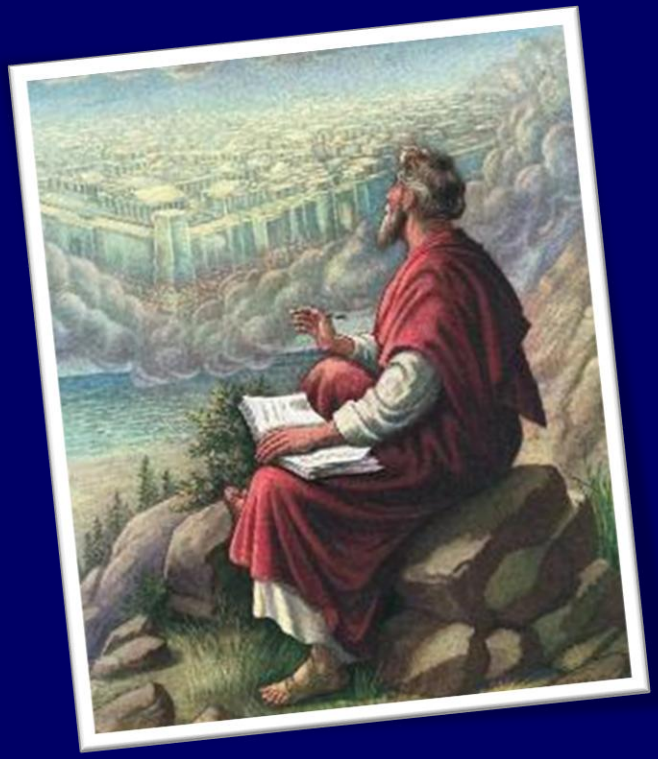


John 20:30-31



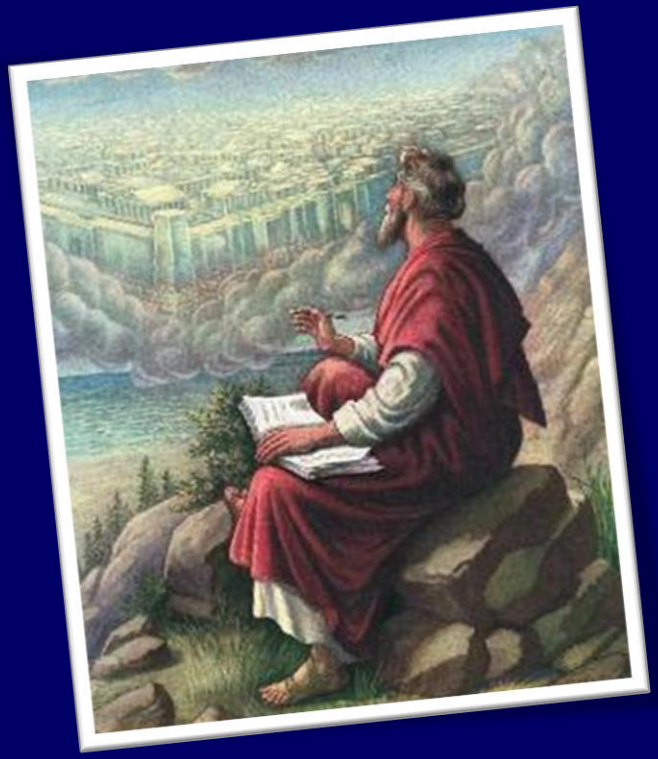
“Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, **which are not written in this book**; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.”

John 21:25



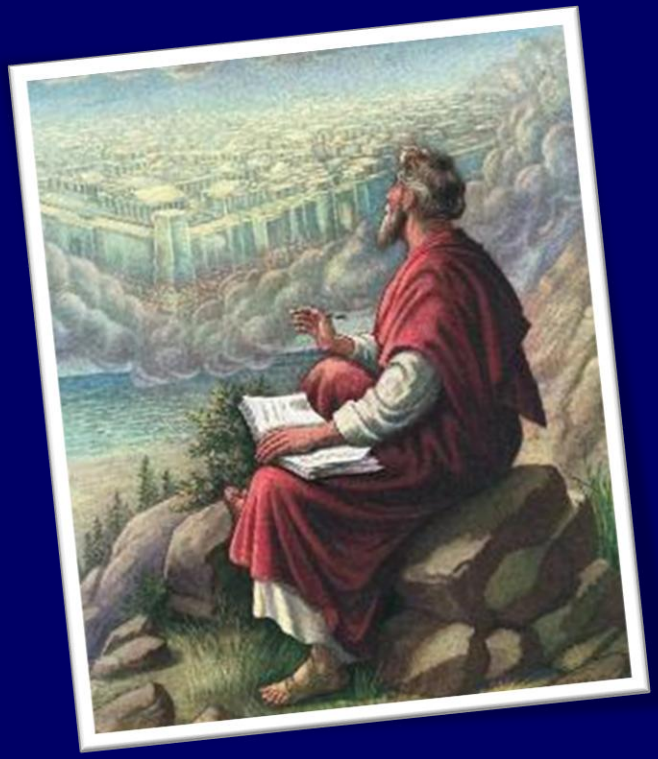
"And there are also many other things which Jesus did, **which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written**."

2 John 12



“Though I have **many things** to write to you, **I do not want to do so with paper and ink**; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that your joy may be made full.”

3 John 13-14



"I had **many things to write to you, but I am not willing to write them to you with pen and ink**; but I hope to see you shortly, and we will speak face to face."

John 15:4

“Abide in Me, and I [**will abide**] in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you abide in Me.” (NASB)



1 John 2:3-5

“By this we know that we have come to know Him [**by fellowship, 1:2–2:2**], if we keep His commandments. The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in [**fellowship with, 1:3-7**] Him.” (NASB)



1 John 2:7-11

“Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard. On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true Light is already shining. The one who says he is [**walking/abiding, 1:7**] in the Light and *yet* hates his . . .



1 John 2:7-11

. . .brother is [**walking/abiding, 1:6**] in the darkness until now. The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But the one who hates his brother [**a fellow believer**] is [**abiding, 2:10**] in the darkness and walks in the darkness [**1:6**], and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes." (NASB)



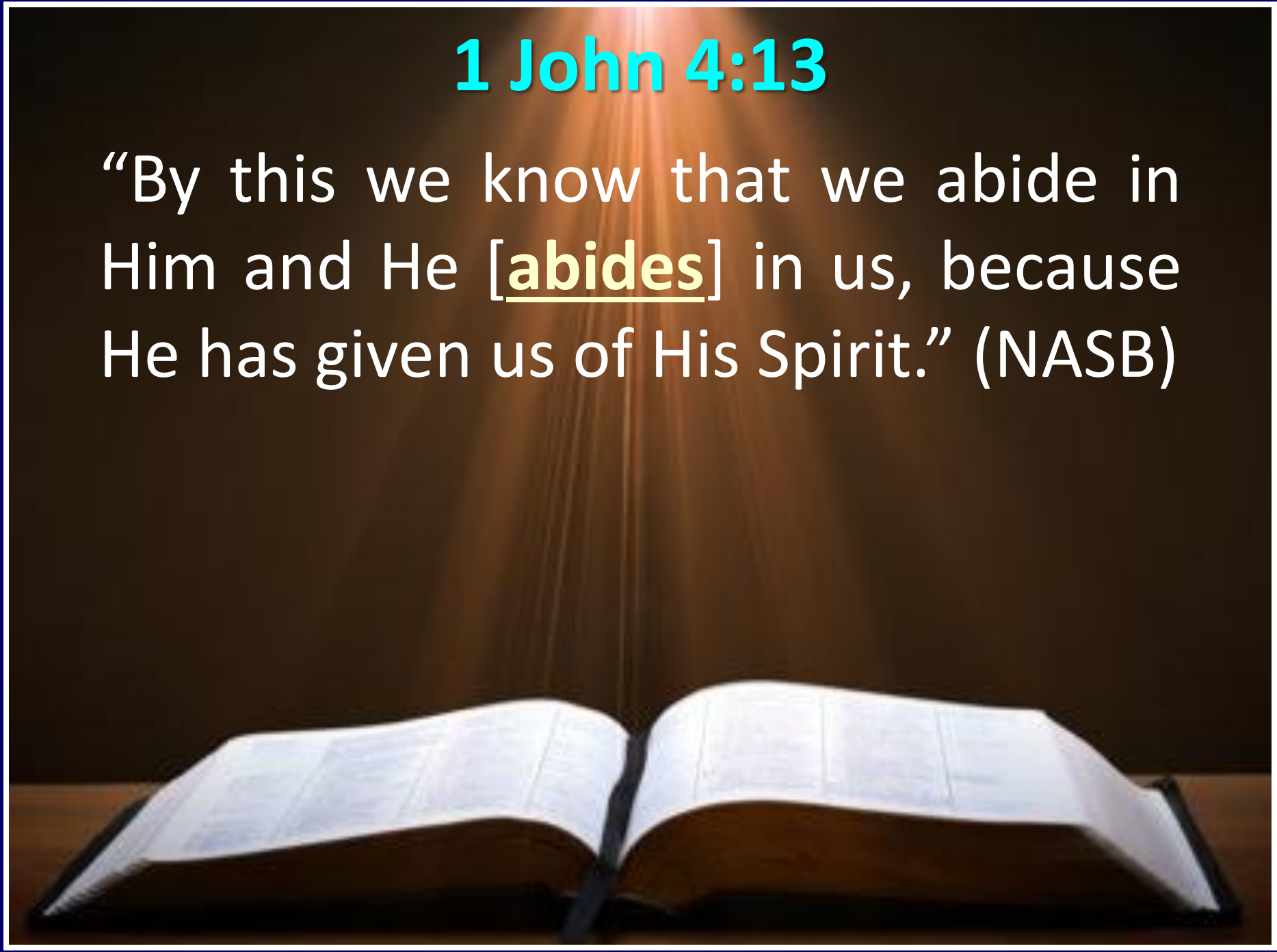
1 John 3:24

“The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He [**abides, John 15:4**] in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.” (NASB)



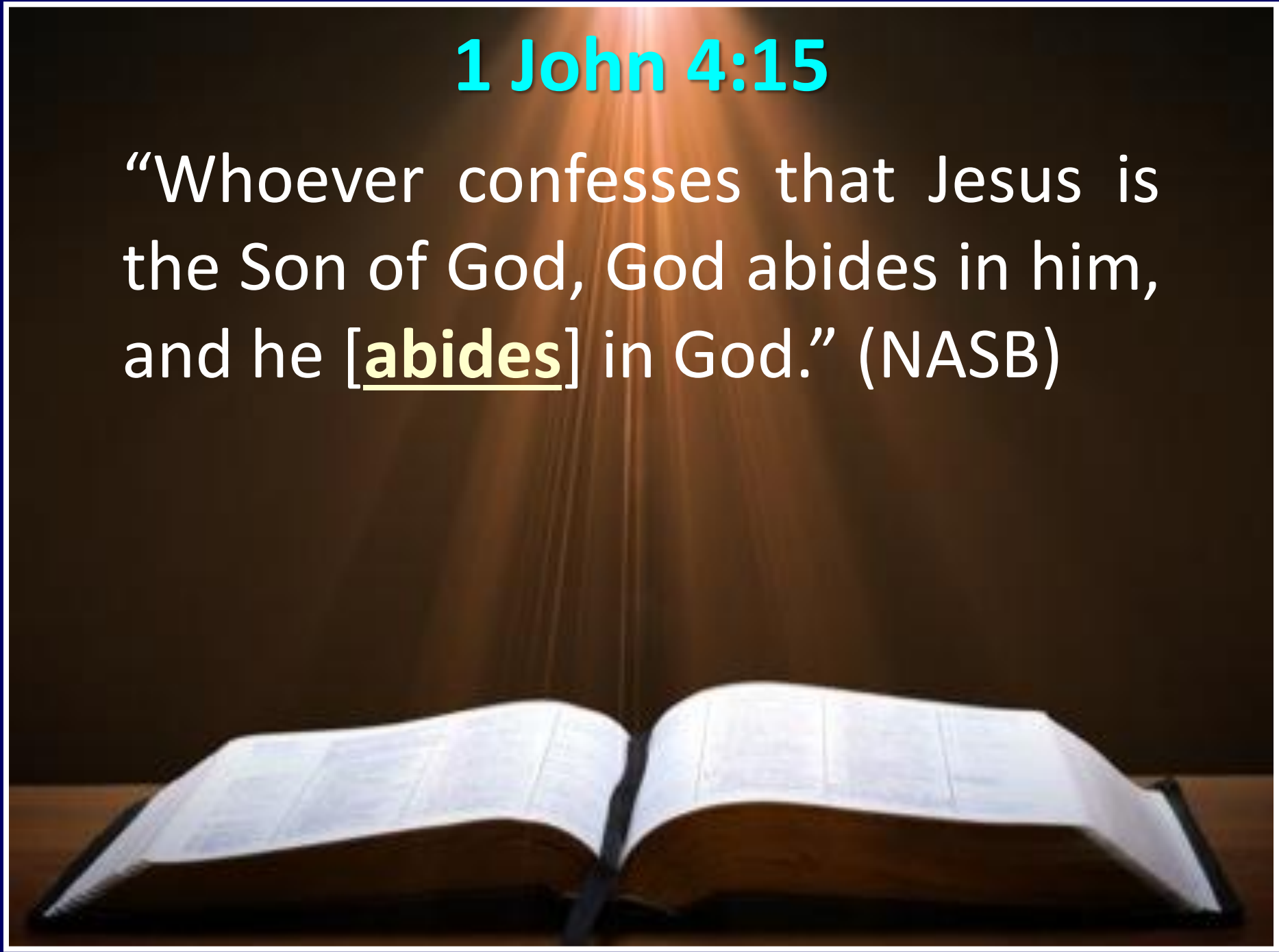
1 John 4:13

"By this we know that we abide in Him and He [**abides**] in us, because He has given us of His Spirit." (NASB)



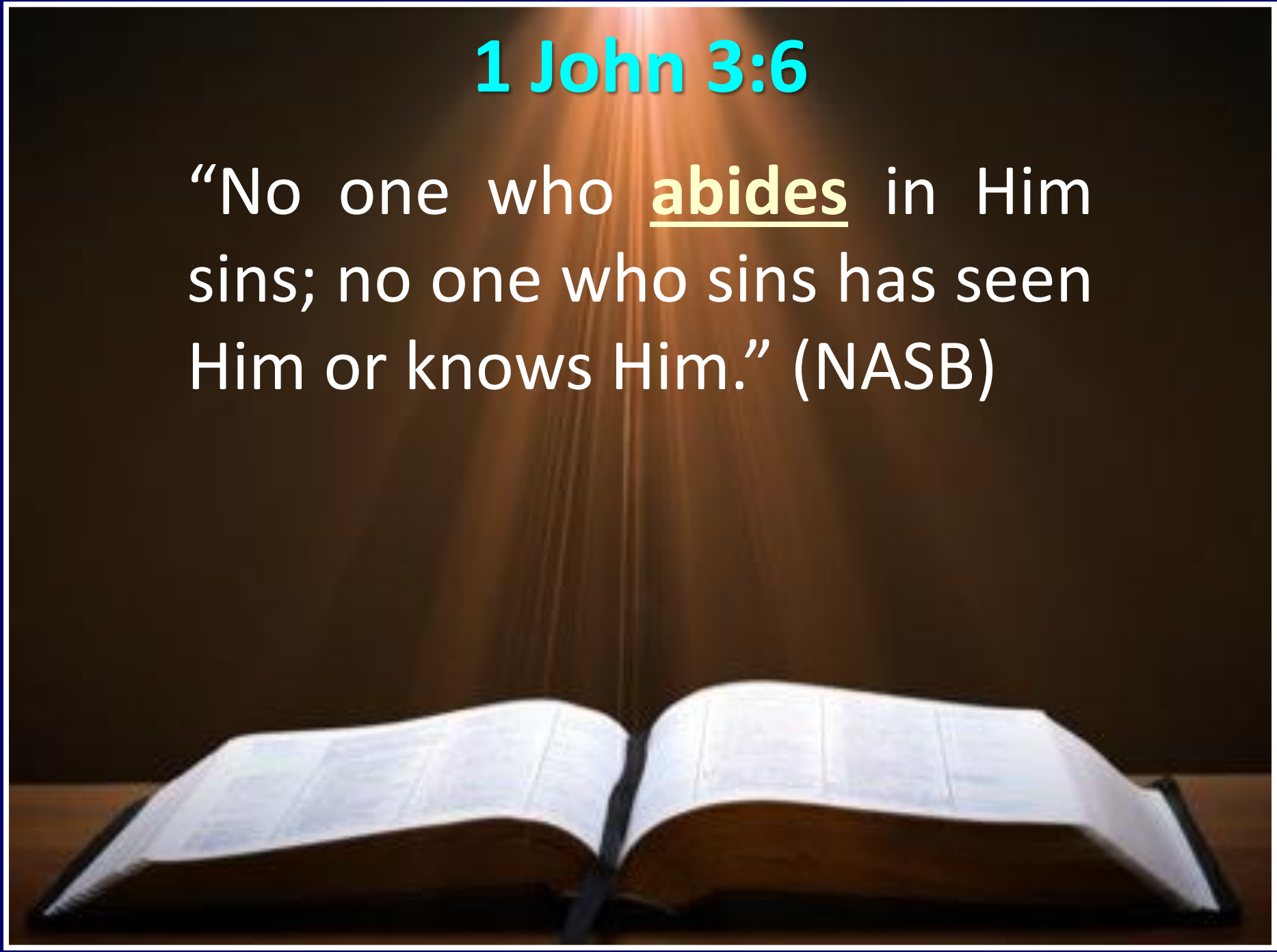
1 John 4:15

"Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he [**abides**] in God." (NASB)



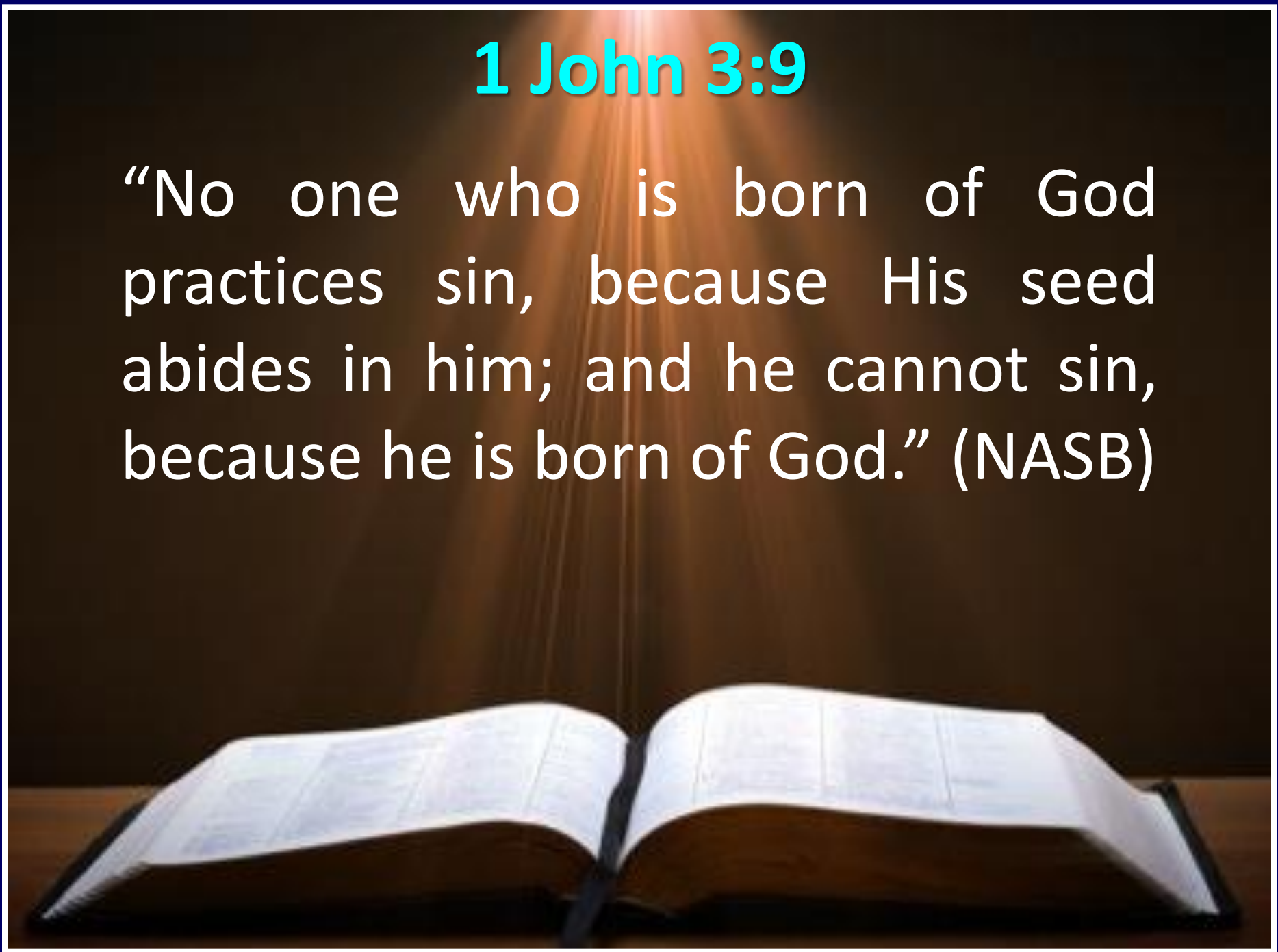
1 John 3:6

"No one who **abides** in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him." (NASB)



1 John 3:9

“No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.” (NASB)



1 John 3:9

"No one who is born of God practices sin [**when abiding in Him**], because His seed [**the new nature**] abides in him; and he cannot sin [**when he is abiding in Him**], because he is born of God [**with a new nature**]." (NASB)



CONCLUSION

Passages from the General Letters & Revelation

a. Jas. 5:19-20

b. Heb. 3:6, 14

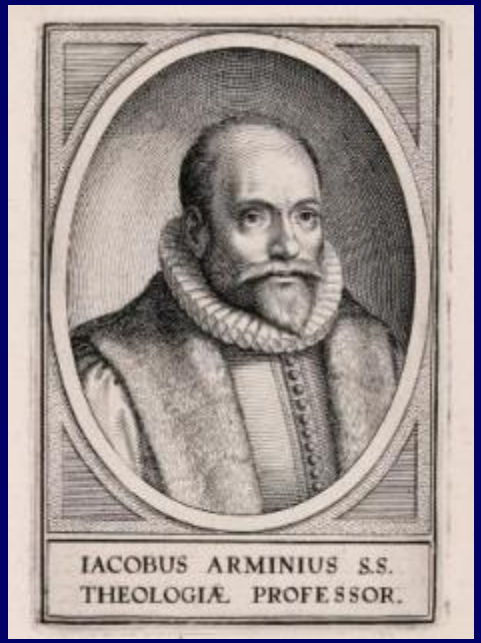
c. Heb. 5:9-10

d. Heb. 6:4-6

e. Heb. 10:26-30

f. Heb. 12:14

g. 2 Pet. 1:10-11, 20-22



h. Jude 11

i. 1 John 2:3

j. 1 John 3:9

k. 1 John 3:15

l. 1 John 5:16

m. Rev. 3:5

n. Rev. 22:18-19