

# THE EPISTLES of John

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# WORD FOR THE JOURNEY

▣ **1 John 2:15-17** Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

▣ World: *kosmos*: the order of things here on earth

▣ Love: *agape*: to put another's best interest first

CHRISTIANS SHOULD NEVER PUT THE WORLD'S  
INTERESTS AHEAD OF GOD AND HIS  
INTERESTS

# WHAT YOU BELIEVE

- ▣ **1 John 5:1-4** Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the *child* born of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.
- ▣ Loving the children of God
- ▣ Our faith overcomes the world

# OVERCOMERS

- ▣ **1 John 5:5-8** Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the One who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ; not with the water only, but with the water and with the blood. It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and the three are in agreement.
- ▣ The three-fold testimony
- ▣ Spirit because the spirit came to tell people how to live when they accepted Christ; the water of baptism
- ▣ and the blood of Christ

# ETERNAL LIFE

- ▣ **1 John 5:9-13** If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. 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.

# THE KEY

- ▣ **1 John 5:13-17** 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. This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us *in* whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him. 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. All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not *leading* to death.

# END COMMENTS

- ▣ **1 John 5:18-21** We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in *the power of* the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. Little children, guard yourselves from idols.
- ▣ Evil from the enemy
- ▣ Staying in God
- ▣ Avoid idols

# WALKING IN TRUTH

- ▣ **2 John 1:1-3** The elder to the chosen lady and her children, whom I love in truth; and not only I, but also all who know the truth, for the sake of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever: Grace, mercy *and* peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love.
- ▣ He begins with a simple greeting
- ▣ He is writing to all who know and love the truth
- ▣ Everyone who has the truth lives forever
- ▣ **2 John 1:4-5** I was very glad to find *some* of your children walking in truth, just as we have received commandment *to do* from the Father.



# WALKING IN TRUTH

- ▣ **The truth of the gospel message abides forever**
- ▣ **The truth of the existence of God abides forever**
- ▣ **The truth of God's promises to us abides forever**
- ▣ **Psalm 111:7-8** The works of His hands are truth and justice; all His precepts are sure. They are upheld forever and ever; they are performed in truth and uprightness.
- ▣ **Ephesians 4:14-16** As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

# FALSE TEACHERS

- ▣ **2 John 1:5-7** Now I ask you, lady, not as though *I were* writing to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it. For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ *as* coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.
- ▣ **Titus 1:10-11** For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, who must be silenced because they are upsetting whole families, teaching things they should not *teach* for the sake of sordid gain.

# GOES TOO FAR

- ▣ **2 John 1:8-11** Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward. Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into *your* house, and do not give him a greeting; for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.
- ▣ Goes too far

# LOVE DEFINED

- ▣ **2 John 1:12-13** 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. The children of your chosen sister greet you.
- ▣ **Romans 15:28-29** Therefore, when I have finished this, and have put my seal on this fruit of theirs, I will go on by way of you to Spain. I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.
- ▣ **2 Corinthians 13:2-3** I have previously said when present the second time, and though now absent I say in advance to those who have sinned in the past and to all the rest *as well*, that if I come again I will not spare *anyone*, since you are seeking for proof of the Christ who speaks in me, and who is not weak toward you, but mighty in you.

# THE MESSAGE

- Our faith overcomes any tragedy
  - The water, the blood, and the Spirit give testimony of who we are in Christ
  - Eternal life comes from only Jesus
  - If you see a brother or sister sinning, do something!
  - Avoid idols
  - There are a lot of false teachers in the world who go too far and must be silenced
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