

1st, 2nd & 3rd John

#2, commandments, I Jn 2:1-11

In the Old Testament account of Esther, we read of a plot, by wicked Haman, to kill all the Jews in the empire. The plot was discovered by Mordecai who in turn told Queen Esther. Taking her life in her hands she went before king Ashasuerus as an advocate for the doomed Jews. The king was satisfied (propitiated) with Esther's sacrificial love and the Jews were saved.

In the same way, if we as Born-again believers sin, Christ is our advocate as well as our propitiation before God.

1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; 2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.

3 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

[1.] v:1, What was John's stated purpose for writing this letter?

[2.] v:2, those of the whole world, It seems John is saying that everyone is a Born again Christian. If this is not true, explain why it isn't.

[3.] v:3, commandments, What comes to your mind when you read this word?

[4.] v:3 again, commandments, If John were referring to the law at Mt. Sinai, which covenant would he be talking about?

[5.] v:3 again, commandments, By reviewing v:1-3, who does it seem John is writing to?

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Commandments

commandment, NT:1785 (*en-tol-ay*); from NT:1781; injunction, i.e. an authoritative prescription:
KJV - commandment, precept.

Strong's Numbers and Concordance

4 **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; 5a but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected.

[6.] v:4, is a liar, **Who does this verse identify as a liar?**

[7.] v:5, the love of God, **Who, does the verse say, has this perfected?**

5b By this we know that we are in Him: 6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

[8.] v:6, abides in Him, **Paul uses the phrase, "in Christ". Discuss why the two terms might have the same meaning or why they don't have the same meaning.**

[9.] v:6 again, the same manner as He walked. **What might be some hindrances that keeps one from walking in the same manner as Christ?**

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Before we look at v:7, look at to Jn 13:34-35, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 " By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

[10.] Jn 13:34, What did Christ say He was giving to his disciples and what were the disciples supposed to do?

I Jn 2:7 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.

8 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.

[11.] I Jn 2:7, What did John say he was "not" writing and what did he say he "was" writing?

[12.] v:7 again, Jot down the characteristics of what John said he "was" writing.

[13.] I Jn 2:7 & Jn 13:34, In your opinion why did Christ call His commandment "new" and John refer to it as "old"?

[14.] v:7 again, John wrote a similar instruction in II Jn 4-6. What does he say the commandment from the beginning was?

[15.] v:8, which is true in Him and in you, Who is the "Him" referring to and who is the "you" referring to?

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9 The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now. 10 The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

11 But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

[16.] v:9-10, Light, This term was used back in Lesson#1. Who was identified as the Light?

[17.] v:9-10, hates his brother, loves his brother, If there were both kinds of people in your congregation, what if anything would be the result?

[18.] v:11, hates his brother, What would cause this person to hate?

[19.] v:11 again, not know where he is going, Using our every day language, explain what the phrase means.

[20.] v:11 again, hates, From the list below, choose the ones you feel hates Christians.

- a) Those born according to the flesh.
- b) Muslims.
- c) Democrats.
- d) non-Americans.
- e) those of the old covenant.

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NOTES