

# 1 John 2:1-6

## Knowing God

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. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

## 1 John 2:1-6

### 1. A Command for Christians: Do not sin (v.1a)

- Acknowledgement of sin is not the ultimate goal.

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"Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil."

1 John 3:8

### 1. A Command for Christians: Do not sin (v.1a)

- Acknowledgement of sin is not the ultimate goal.
- John's purpose is to encourage Christians not to sin.

### 2. Hope for sinners: Jesus (vv.1b-2)

- Jesus is an advocate, on our behalf, with the Father.

### **The only advocate we need is Jesus.**

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:19–22

### **2. Hope for sinners: Jesus (vv.1b-2)**

- Jesus is an advocate, on our behalf, with the Father.
- Jesus is the propitiation for our sins

### **The wrath of God remains on those who reject Jesus.**

Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

John 3:36

### **Jesus: Savior of the world**

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” (John 12:20–21)

Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. (John 12:24)

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself. (John 12:32)

I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. (John 12:46–47)

### **Jesus: Savior of the world**

But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad.

John 11:49–52

### **3. Evidence that we know God: Obedience (vv.3-6)**

- What does it mean “to know God”?
- It implies that we have a relationship with Him.
- Which commands of Jesus is John talking about?

And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

1 John 3:23

### **3. Evidence that we know God: Obedience (vv.3-6)**

- What does it mean “to know God”?
  - It implies that we have a relationship with Him.
- Which commands of Jesus is John talking about?
  - To believe in Jesus
  - To love others
  - To obey all that Jesus taught

### **3. Evidence that we know God: Obedience (vv.3-6)**

- Obedience is not the cause of our relationship with God, rather it is the result of knowing God