

This. Is. Love.
1 John 2:12-27
September 30, 2014

I. A Parenthesis – 1 John 2:12-17

A. Purpose

1. To _____ his readers about their own faith
2. Presenting two _____
 - a. The “_____” – which is the created order in rebellion to _____
 - b. The _____ – Those who are r_____ with God through Jesus Christ
3. John’s desire is that his readers would be _____ so that they do not fall for the _____ or _____ of the world

II. Words for Children...and Others – Vv. 12-14

A. Dear Children – Vv. 12 & 13c

1. Who is this?
2. Forgiven on account of his _____
3. Reassurance
 - a. Of their place in God’s _____
 - b. Their sins have been _____
 - c. They have _____ the Father
4. Unique Privilege
 - a. Because God _____ and _____ us, we are able to live in right relationship, even _____ with him

B. Fathers – Vv. 13a & 14a

1. Who are they?
 - a. _____ believers
 - b. _____ people
2. You have known him
 - a. Every _____ has this privilege
3. From the beginning
 - a. Could be a statement about God/Jesus who have _____ been
 - b. Could be a statement about _____ who knew Jesus when he was on earth

c. I would lean toward the first for two reasons

4. I think the "Fathers" are men and women who are _____ in the faith

5. Reassurance

a. These people with spiritual maturity have an _____

C. Young Men – Vv. 13b & 14b

1. Who are they?

a. Could be those who are _____ in the faith

b. Those who are younger in _____

2. They are _____ & the _____ of God lives in them

a. They are engaging in the _____ of faith

b. They are _____ for the things of God

3. _____ the evil one

a. They are not told _____ him

b. They _____ have

c. Done deal

4. Reassurance

a. We have the _____ _____ living in us

b. Satan has been _____

5. Young, zealous believers bring _____ to the church

D. The Picture Being Painted

1. The community of believers

a. Some more spiritually mature and _____

b. Others less spiritually mature but _____

c. Each _____ the other

d. Each can _____ from the other

III. The Love of the World – Vv. 15-17

A. Exhortation

1. Two _____

a. Love the _____ or love _____

b. If we _____ the world, we _____ love God

2. Symmetry
 - a. Vs. 15 – Love of the _____/Love of the _____
 - b. Vs. 16 – comes from the _____/comes from the _____
 - c. Vs. 17 – the world passes _____/the one who obeys God remains _____

B. Definitions

1. The world = the world of sin that stands in aggressive _____ to God
2. “Love” does not mean do not love _____ in sin
 - a. It means an _____ with worldly godlessness and sin

C. Characteristics

1. The desire (or lust) of the _____
 - a. Any sinful desire that _____ us away from God
2. The desire (or lust) of the _____
3. Boasting of what he _____ and _____
 - a. An _____ trust in what one has rather than trusting in _____

D. Why They Are Wrong

1. Such attitudes and actions are not from _____
 - a. They are from the _____
2. This world is _____

E. Is the World Really That Bad?

1. I’m not sure we’re _____

IV. The Problem – Vv. 18-19

A. Urgency

1. This is a much more _____ warning

B. Last Hour

1. The last hour is the time before Jesus’ _____
2. John is speaking more _____ than chronologically
 - a. The first coming of Jesus brought change in the “eons”

3. The Bible also teaches that things will get _____ on this earth as the time for Jesus' return approaches

C. Antichrist(s)

1. The Bible teaches that at some point, a world leader will emerge as _____ antichrist
2. Who are the antichrists?
 - a. Anyone who _____ Jesus or teaches something opposed to his gospel is *an* antichrist
3. The secessionists were _____
 - a. They had been _____ of John's church, but they were never truly _____
 - b. Now they have left to propagate _____

V. The Protection – Vv. 20-21

A. Equipping the Saints

1. _____ from the Holy One
 - a. Means the _____ who indwells every believer
2. We have the One who leads us in that _____ living inside of us – the Holy Spirit

VI. The Heresy – Vv. 22-23

A. The Crux of the False Teaching: Christology

1. The secessionists _____ that Jesus was the Messiah
2. How?
 - a. They likely they taught that Jesus was the Messiah, but that he wasn't fully _____
 - b. They denied the _____
3. John is blunt: Anyone who teaches such things is a _____
4. Why is it such a big deal?
 - a. God has entered our world and made himself _____
 - b. The Incarnation is essential to our understanding of _____

VII. The Exhortation – Vv. 24-27

A. Anchor Ourselves in Scripture

1. What we have heard from the _____
 - a. John likely meant his own _____
 - b. We must _____ ourselves in it

B. Be Led by the Spirit

1. Allow the _____ to guide you
2. The Spirit will help you _____ what is true and what is false

C. Don't Need a Teacher

1. He is specifically calling out the _____ teachers
 - a. John is invalidating their _____

VIII. The Importance of Remembering

A. All Over Scripture

1. Remember who you once _____
2. Remember what _____ has done
3. Remember who you _____ in Christ

B. Remember

1. You have an _____ of the Holy Spirit
 - a. So hold on _____ to the true message of the Gospel
2. This is our most important _____ against false teaching
3. We must become _____ in the truth of the Gospel