



1<sup>st</sup> John

#### **Born of God**

- Obedient believers stand in a new relationship with God
- In His mercy, God caused us to be "born again" (1 Pet. 1:3)
- It is analogous to a child-father relationship
- There should be some family resemblance

Everyone who is born of God...

## **Practices Righteousness**

"If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him." (1 John 2:29)

- Being born of God means accepting a standard of conduct
  - "walk in the same way in which he walked" (1 Jn 2:6)
  - Do not let anyone tell you otherwise! (1 Jn 3:7)
- God wants to have fellowship with us (1 Jn 1:3)
  - We must walk in the light (1 Jn 1:5-7)
  - He doesn't want us to sin (1 Jn 2:1)
  - God's grace provides provision for sin, not permission to sin

# **Cannot Keep On Sinning**

"No one **born of God** makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been **born of God**."

(1 John 3:9)

- Not that a light-walker won't occasionally "stumble" (1:8-9)
- One born of God does not live a life of perpetual, habitual sin
  - We are no longer "servants of sin" (Rom. 6:12-18)
  - God's word (Luke 8:11) abiding in us will help us resist temptation (1 Jn 2:14b)
- The difference between us and the world is to be "evident" (1 Jn 3:10)

#### **Love One Another**

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God." (1 John 4:7)

- God demonstrated love toward us as our example
  - Undeserved with no guarantee of reciprocation (Rom. 5:8)
- We do not really know God unless we show God's love
  - It's the true mark of a Christian (John 13:35)
  - Those born of God do not "bite and devour one another" (Gal. 5:15)

### **Believe that Jesus is the Christ**

"Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been **born of God**, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been **born of him**." (1 John 5:1)

- Faith is the foundation of who we are (Jn 1:12-13)
- Jesus could not be our Savior unless He was "the Christ"
  - He could not reveal the way of salvation, unless He was a prophet
  - He could not sacrifice for our sins, unless He was a priest
  - He could not be enthroned at the Fathers right hand, unless He was a king
  - He could not be prophet, priest, and king, unless He is the Christ (Heb. 1:1-3)
- Those born of God believe, trust and follow Jesus as the Christ

#### Overcome the World

"For everyone who has been **born of God** overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith." (1 John 5:4)

- Our faith is the victory!
  - Our profession is proof! (1 Jn 5:1)
  - Demonstrated in our love and obedience (1 Jn 5:2; cf. 2:3, 5; 3:22)
  - Prevents serving Him from becoming "burdensome" (1 Jn 5:3)
- We overcome through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:57; Rom. 8:37)
  - "The one who **overcomes** will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son." (Rev. 21:7)

#### The Evil One Does Not Touch Him

"We know that everyone who has been **born of God** does not keep on sinning, but he who was **born of God** protects him, and the evil one does not touch him." (1 John 5:18)

- touch "to lay hold of or to grasp"
  - "to assault, in order to sever the vital union between Christ and the believer."
- Resist the devil and he will flee from you! (James 4:7)
- God protects us in His love (Rom. 8:35-39)



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