

The
FIRST
Letter of the Apostle

JOHN

A Translation of the Original Greek Text into Modern English

Beta Version

July 7, 2011

Translated by J. A. Crabtree

SECTION 1

- [1:1-2] 1. *I want to relate to you* what was from the beginning regarding the account of Life—what we have heard, what we have seen with our own eyes, what we watched and our own hands felt. Life was in fact revealed; and we saw and attest to and disclose to you the way to Life in the Final Age that was kept with the Father, but was revealed to us.
- [1:3-4] 2. What we have seen and heard we disclose now to you so that you too might hold an understanding of reality in common with us. And, indeed, our understanding is held in common with the Father and with his Son, Jesus, the Messiah. Indeed, we write these things to you so that your joy might be made complete.
- [1:5-7] 3. Now this is the message that we heard from Jesus and disclose to you: God is light. Now, in God, there is most assuredly no darkness. If we say that we hold an understanding of reality in common with God, and yet we are walking in darkness, we are lying. And indeed, we are not following the truth. But if we are walking in the light as Jesus is in the light, we do hold an understanding of reality in common with one another—that is, us with God—and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.
- [1:8-10] 4. If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves. Indeed, the truth is not with us. If we own up to our sins, he is faithful and just, such that he will forgive us our sins and will cleanse us from all our unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Jesus a liar and his account is not with us.
- [2:1-2] 5. My precious offspring, I am writing these things to you in order that you not sin. Yet, if someone does sin, we have an advocate before the Father, the Messiah, Jesus—

the Righteous One. As a matter of fact, he is the propitiatory offering for our sins; and not for ours only, but for the whole world.

- [2:3-5a] **6.** Now by this we can know whether we have known Jesus—if we preserve his instruction. The one who says that he has known him and yet is not preserving his instruction, he is a liar and the truth is not with him. But whoever preserves his account, surely—in that one—God’s love has brought about its natural result.
- [2:5b-6] **7.** By this we can know whether we are with Jesus—the one claiming to remain with him is under obligation to walk just like that one himself in fact walked.
- [2:7-8] **8.** Beloved, I am not writing to you with a new teaching; rather, with an old teaching that you have had from the beginning. The old teaching is the discourse you have already heard. And yet again, I do write to you with a new teaching—this is true with respect to him and with respect to you—because the darkness is fading away and the true light is already shining.
- [2:9-11] **9.** The one who says he is in this light but who hates his brother is still in the darkness even until now. The one who loves his brother, he continues in the light and there is no cause of stumbling in him; but the one who hates his brother, he is in the darkness and he walks in this darkness and he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

SECTION 2

- [2:12-13] **10.** I am writing to you, precious offspring, because your sins have been forgiven you for the sake of his name: I am writing to you fathers because you have known what has been from the beginning; I am writing to you young men because you have overcome the evil one.
- [2:14] **11.** I have written to you, dear children, because you know the Father: I have written to you fathers because you have known what has been from the beginning; I have written to you young men because you are strong and the account from God continues with you and you have overcome the evil one.
- [2:15-17] **12.** Do not love this world nor the things in this world. If anyone loves this world, love for the Father is not in him; because everything in this world—the desire of the flesh and the desire of the eyes and the arrogant preoccupation of everyday life—is

not from the Father; rather, it is from the world. Indeed, the world and the desire for it are passing away; but the one who does the will of God persists into that age.

- [2:18-19] **13.** Dear children, it is the last hour. Just as you heard that anti-Christ is coming, even now many anti-Christ's have come to be. From this we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us; but they were not really from us. If they had been from us, they would have stayed with us; but they didn't, so they were exposed, because not all are really from us.
- [2:20-21] **14.** Now you have an anointing from the holy one and you know everything. I have not written to you because you do not know the truth; but rather, because you do know it and because every lie is not in harmony with this truth.
- [2:22-23] **15.** Who is the liar but the one who is denying that Jesus is the Christ? He is the one who is the anti-Christ—the one who is denying both the Father and the Son. Everyone who denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who acknowledges the Son does indeed have the Father.
- [2:24-25] **16.** What you heard from the beginning, that is to remain with you. If what you heard from the beginning continues with you, you in fact continue in the Son and in the Father. This indeed is the promise that he promised us—Life in the final age.
- [2:26-28] **17.** I have written these things to you concerning those who are seeking to deceive you. As for you, the anointing that you received from him continues with you and you have no need that anyone should teach you. Rather, as his anointing teaches you about everything and is true and is not a lie—even as it has taught you—remain with it. Remain with it even now, precious offspring, so that if he should return we might have confidence and not be put to shame before him at his coming.
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SECTION 3

- [2:29] **18.** If you realize that God is righteous, you know that everyone who does righteousness is fathered by him.
- [3:1-2] **19.** Look at what sort of love the Father has given us that we should be called the offspring of God. In fact we are. For this reason the world does not know us, for it did not know him. Beloved, even now we are offspring of God; but what we shall in fact be has not yet been revealed. We do know that, when that is revealed—insofar as we will see it for what it is—we shall be like him.
- [3:3-6] **20.** Everyone who has this hope within him purifies himself just as that one, Jesus, is pure. Everyone who does sin does, in fact, commit lawlessness. Indeed, sin is lawlessness. Now we know that that one, Jesus, was revealed in order to take away our sins. Now, in him, there is no sin. Everyone who is remaining faithful to him does not sin. Everyone who sins has not seen him and does not know him.
- [3:7-10a] **21.** Precious offspring, no one is to deceive you. The one who does righteousness is righteous, just as that one is righteous. The one who does sin is of the devil because the devil sins from the beginning. For this reason the Son of God appeared, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Everyone who is fathered by God does not sin, because his seed remains faithful to him and they cannot sin because they are fathered by God. By this the offspring of God and the offspring of the devil are evident.
- [3:10b-15] **22.** Everyone who does not do righteousness is not from God, and neither is the one who does not love his brother, because this is the message that we heard from the beginning—that we love one another, not being like Cain. He was of the evil one and slew his brother. And why did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil while the deeds of his brother were righteous. So, do not marvel, brothers, if the world hates you. We know that we have departed from death and into life because we love the brothers. The one who does not love continues toward death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that every murderer is without Life in the final age continuing to await him.

[3:16-18] **23.** By this we know love—that that man Jesus gave up his life for us. Now we ought to give up our lives for our brothers. Whoever has the means to life in this world and sees his brother in need and closes his heart to him, how does the love of God remain with him? Precious offspring, we are not to love in thought and in speech; rather, in deed and in truth.

SECTION 4

[3:19-24a] **24.** Now by this we shall know that we are of the truth... (Indeed, we shall assure our heart before him because, if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart and knows all things. Beloved, when our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence with respect to God that we are getting from him what we are requesting.) So, we shall know that we are of the truth by the fact that we are keeping his instructions and doing what is pleasing to him. And this is his instruction—that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus, the Messiah, and that we love one another, just as Jesus gave us instruction. Now the one who keeps Jesus' instructions is remaining with Jesus, and Jesus is remaining with him.

[3:24b-4:3] **25.** Now by this we know that Jesus remains with us apostles—from the spirit that he gave to us. Beloved, do not believe every spirit; rather, evaluate the spirits to see if they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the spirit of God: every spirit that acknowledges Jesus to be the Messiah—even though he has come in human flesh—is from God; and every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. Indeed, this is the spirit of anti-Christ, about which you heard that it was coming. And indeed it is now in the world already.

[4:4-6] **26.** You are from God, precious offspring, and you have been victorious over them, because greater is that which is in you than that which is in the world. They are from the world. Because they are from the world, they speak and the world listens to them. We are from God. The one who knows God listens to us. The one who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

SECTION 5

- [4:7-8] **27.** Beloved, we are to love one another, because love is from God. Indeed, everyone who loves has been fathered by God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love.
- [4:9-10] **28.** By this the love of God was made apparent among us: God sent his Son into the world in order that, through him, we might have Life. The love is in this—not that we have loved God, but rather, that he has loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiatory offering for our sins.
- [4:11] **29.** Beloved, if God so loved us, we likewise ought to love one another.
- [4:12] **30.** No one has at any time seen God. If we love one another, God continues with us and our love for him has been brought to its natural result within us.
- [4:13-16] **31.** By this we apostles know that we remain in God and he among us: He has given us of his spirit. Now we apostles have seen and testify that the Father sent his Son to be the savior of the world. Hence, if one acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God continues with him and he with God. Accordingly, we apostles have come to know and have come to believe the love that God has for us. God is love. Now the one who continues in this love continues with God and God continues with him.
- [4:17-18] **32.** With this, his love for us has led to its intended result, such that we can have confidence in the day of judgment that, just as the man Jesus is, so also are we in the coming cosmos. There is no fear in this love; rather, his love—brought to its intended result—eliminates fear, because fear entails punishment. The one who is afraid has not been brought by this love to its intended result.
- [4:19] **33.** We are to love others because he first loved us.

[4:20-5:2] **34.** If someone says, “I love God,” and yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For with respect to the one who does not love his brother, whom he sees, how is it possible that he loves God, whom he does not see? Indeed, we have this instruction from him, that the one who loves God is to love his brother also. Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Messiah has been fathered by God, and everyone who loves the one fathering such a one also loves the one who has been fathered by him. By this we know that we love God—we are to love the offspring of God when we love God and practice his teachings.

SECTION 6

[5:3-5] **35.** Indeed, this is the love of God: that we keep his instruction. Now his instructions are not overly demanding, because everything that is fathered by God has victory over the world. Indeed this is the victory that is victorious over the world: our belief. Who is the one who is victorious over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

[5:6-12] **36.** This man Jesus is the one who passed through baptism and through death. Jesus is the Messiah, not on the basis of his baptism only, but on the basis of his baptism and on the basis of his death. And the spirit too is one who testifies to it, because the spirit is the truth. Because there are three bearing witness—the spirit, and the water, and the blood—the three in fact indicate one thing. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater—specifically, this is the testimony of God: that he has born testimony concerning his Son. The one who believes in the Son of God has this testimony in himself. The one who does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God testified concerning his Son. Indeed this is the testimony: that God has given us Life in the final age and this Life is in his Son. The one who has the Son has this Life. The one who does not have the Son of God does not have this Life.

SECTION 7

- [5:13-15] **37.** I have written these things to you—to you who believe in the name of the Son of God—in order that you might know that you have Life in the final age. Now this is the boldness that we have toward him: that, when we make request of what is in accordance with his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us when we ask for something, we know that we have those requests that we requested from him.
- [5:16-18] **38.** If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin that is not leading to death, he shall ask and he will for his sake give Life to the ones not sinning to death. There is a sin leading to death. Concerning that I am not saying that he should make request. Every instance of unrighteousness is sin; but there is a sin not leading to death. We know that everyone who has been fathered by God does not sin; rather, the one born from God keeps him for himself and the evil one does not touch him.
- [5:19-20] **39.** We know that we are of God and the whole world lies in the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has imparted to us understanding so that we might know the true account. And we are in this true account, in his Son, Jesus, the Messiah. This one is the true God and Life in the final age.
- [5:21] **40.** Precious offspring, guard yourselves against idols.
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The
SECOND
Letter of the Apostle

JOHN

A Translation of the Original Greek Text into Modern English

Beta Version

July 7, 2011

Translated by J. A. Crabtree

- [1-2] **1.** From the Old One 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 that remains among us and will be with us forever.
- [3] **2.** Grace, mercy, and peace shall be with us—who are in the truth and in love—from God the Father and from Jesus, the Christ, the Son of the Father.
- [4] **3.** I was very glad to find *some* of your children walking in truth, in accord with the instruction we received from the Father.
- [5-7] **4.** Now I ask you, lady—not as though I were writing to you a new instruction, but the one which we have had from the beginning—that we love one another. This is the love we must practice in order to walk according to His instructions. This is my instruction, just as you 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 to be the Christ since he came in human flesh—this is the deceiver and the antichrist.
- [8-11] **5.** Watch yourselves, lest you lose what we have worked for. Rather, I desire that you receive the full reward. Anyone who “advances” and does not remain in the teaching of Christ does not have God. The one who remains in the teaching of Christ, he has the Father as well as the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your home and give him a welcome. For the one who gives him a welcome shares in his evil deeds.

- [12] **6.** While I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do it with paper and ink. Rather, I confidently expect to come to you and speak face to face in order that your joy might be made complete.
- [13] **7.** The children of your elect sister greet you.

The
THIRD
Letter of the Apostle

JOHN

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Translated by J. A. Crabtree

- [1] **1.** The Old One to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth.
- [2-4] **2.** Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers. For I was very glad when brethren came and testified to your truth, that is, how you are walking in truth. I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.
- [5-8] **3.** Beloved, with respect to that for which you are working on behalf of the brothers—and that being on behalf of strangers—you are acting faithfully. They have testified to your love before the church. With respect to them, you shall do well if you send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore we ought to support such men, so that we may be fellow workers with the truth.
- [9-10] **4.** I wrote something to the church; but the man who loves to have preeminence among them, Diotrephes, does not accept us. For this reason, if I come, I will call attention to the deeds that he does, unjustly accusing us with evil accusations. And not satisfied with this, neither does he receive the brethren, and he forbids those who desire to do so and puts them out of the church.
- [11] **5.** Beloved, do not imitate this evil thing; rather, do what is good. The one who does good is of God; the one who does evil has not seen God.
- [12] **6.** Demetrius has received testimony from everyone—even from the truth itself; and we add our testimony, and you know that our testimony is true.

- [13-14] **7.** I had many things to write to you, but I do not to write them to you with pen and ink. I expect to see you directly, and then we will speak face to face.
- [15] **8.** Peace be to you. The friends greet you. Greet the friends by name.