



1 John

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1 John

1 John 2:3

- Background (vv 1-2): The *propitiation* for our sins, and the sins of the whole world, was totally accomplished in Christ.
- The ultimate test of the knowledge of the knowledge of Christ: keeping God's commandments.

What does “know” mean?

- Does it mean “salvation?”
 - Salvation is *by grace through faith* not by knowledge
 - Not every believer has come to *know* Him.
 - *Ginosko* is the knowledge in its deepest sense
 - Does a new believer *know* Him? They are *justified* (saved), but their *experience* does not allow for true *ginosko* knowledge.
 - Repeated warning: don’t make the Scripture say more than it says.

What does “know” mean?

- *Knowing God is a oneness of understanding and experience.*
 - John 14:8-9
 - This oneness cannot be claimed without an obedience to God’s commandments

What does “know” mean?



1 John 2:3

- “If we keep His commandments”
 - Who is “His?” It appears to be “Christ’s”
 - Which *commandments* are we supposed to keep?
 - Can we keep all the commandments of Jesus?
Matthew 7:8
 - 1 John 3:23 – Believe on the Name and love one another

1 John 2:4-6

- Verses 4-6 serve to strengthen the claim of verse 3.
 - We can't claim to *know* Him if we don't believe on His name and love the brethren.
 - By keeping His word, the love of God is *perfected* in us.
 - 1 Jn 4:12, 17-18
 - *Abides* is the same family of meaning as *knows*.
 - It does not mean “saved”
 - It is a reference to the *perfection of salvation*

To *know* and to *abide*

- These are two of John's favorite words
 - Abide (*meno*), 68 of 118 uses are in John's works. (58%)
 - Know (*ginosko*), 86 of 221 uses are in John's works. (40%)
- John is very clear: to *know* and to *abide* is only possible when we *believe* and *love*.

1 John 2:7-9

- The commandment of faith and love was nothing new. It was even an “old dispensation” command.
- The commandment is given anew, in the age in which *the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining*.

1 John 2:9-11

- Notice the great victory that comes through brotherly love: no cause for stumbling.
- But the hatred of brother causes a darkness that blinds your own eyes.
- John, *the disciple whom Jesus loved*, is very concerned that we *love one another*.

Assurance of Salvation

- Is salvation known (made sure) by obedience to commandments?
 - If it is, how can you know if you will be saved?
 - You may be obedient today, but what about tomorrow?
- 1 John 5:13 cannot be seen as a purpose statement for the entire epistle.
 - The purpose statement is in 1:1-4
 - 1 John is a work about the fellowship of the Apostle with his “little children,” a fellowship rooted in God through Christ

Questions?

- New article: Why WWJD shouldn't be your ethical code.
- Next week's Bible study link:
<http://RandyWhite.enterthemeeting.com/m/ZN7B2ZFX>
- I will register you for the automatic follow-up. Use the "Update Preferences" at the bottom of any email to remove this.
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