

Wednesday in the Word
Digging Deeper
September 29, 2021
1 John 1:6-2:2
Relax in Christ

1 John 1:6-10 KJVS

[6] If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:
[7] But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. [8] If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [10] If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 2:1-2 KJVS

[1] My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: [2] And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

This is me talking to myself. Let's follow the breadcrumb trail to see where it leads us. I say V6. "I have fellowship with Christ" *but I walk in darkness.* V7. ("If I walk in the light" *His blood cleanses me.*) V8. "I have no sin" *and I have no truth.* V9. "I confess my sin." *And He forgives me.* V10. "I have not sinned." *He is a liar.* V2:1. "If I sin." *I have an advocate!* V2. "He outweighs my sin and those of all others!"

Prior to our salvation this conversation would have turned out poorly. It may have ended at verse 10. When in darkness, without light, the ungodly, guided only by their own bitterness and self-righteousness, would surely convince themselves that there is no room for God. Even acknowledging that answers exist in Christ, the evil one can steal the seed before it roots. Matthew 13:4,19. Because of salvation a New Voice is added to our soliloquy. Though our minds may question the deeper aspects of the work of Christ in our lives, His Holy Spirit, now in residence within us, leads us to the Truth. We are truly hopeless without the Lord. This Divine guidance is forever within us, every moment and day. We know we are led to Truth every time we entertain sin, error or failure. John 14:17, 16:13. We will hear more of this in chapters 4 and 5 of this letter.

Let's dig a little deeper. Back to verse 6. What is darkness? (skotos; shadiness that is obscurity, darkness. Darkened eyesight or blindness; metaphorically, of ignorance respecting divine things and human duties, and the accompanying ungodliness and immorality, together with their consequent misery in hell.) Can we walk there even if we think we have fellowship with Jesus?! Yes. John 3:19, 12:35, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Ephesians 6:12. What are the deeds of darkness? Ephesians 5:3-12. Remember. Don't judge others but ask for Wisdom to love them back to the Kingdom of Light. Luke 1:78-9, Acts 26:15-18.

Verse 7. How does Jesus' blood cleanse us of our sin? Let's follow another trail. As this is a group discussion please share ideas on the progression of the following. Genesis 3:21, Exodus 12:3-28, Leviticus 1:10-11, 5:9, 17:11, Jeremiah 31:31-34, Matthew 26:27-29, Romans 3:23-25, Hebrews 9:6-15, Revelation 7:13-14, 12:10-11. Of course this particular study can be the subject of lengthy instruction but realize the great price of our precious fellowship. Look around the room. These valuable relationships were forged through the blood of Jesus Christ! This helps us see the cost and the depth of verse 9. All we need to do is to confess (*homologēō*; to reason together with [God]) Think of it. If we simply agree with the reasoning of God, concerning our sin, He does all the work of saving us by becoming our sacrificial Lamb. His cleansing is the work of His Holy Spirit. Titus 3:5. Again, God's job. Not ours. Relax. Stop fighting that war inside your soul. Look to Jesus, your Author and Finisher. Hebrews 12:2.

Verses 1 and 2 of 1 John 2 tell us even more. Jesus has no limit of scope in His range of value to us. He truly is our All in All. He is your Advocate (*paraklētos*; An intercessor consoler: - advocate comforter. Summoned, called to one's side, especially called to one's aid. One who pleads another's cause before a judge, a pleader, counsel for defense, legal assistant, an advocate.) What are you worried about? He's taken your case! He is your Propitiation (*hilasmus*; Atonement that is an expiator: - propitiation. An appeasing, a propitiating.) OK that didn't help. How's this? To make amends or to repair the damage done by an offense. To exchange, adjust, repair or reconcile. We had a broken relationship with God our Father. Jesus healed it for us. Relax!