

HHBC



*The Address of*

# 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:9-11

*Light vs. Darkness*





# I John 2: 7-8 & 9-11

3 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; 5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: 6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

7 Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard. 8 On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true Light is already shining.

9 The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now. 10 The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him. 11 But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.



# 1 John: *Four Proposed Purposes for the Address of John*

- First: not an epistle/letter for what now I find are obvious reasons:
- Does not match 2 John and 3 John: “The Elder to: . . .” a. the chosen lady and b. to Gaius. And both epistles he says he is not wanting to go on in pen and ink.
- 1 John has absolutely none of these clear bookends of his letter writing form
- 1 John: is not a test of your faith “if we say we have” but we do not exhibit the fruits, then we are in sin or darkness/ unsaved. John MacArthur’s viewpoint
- 1 John: is not a test of whether you are or are not in fellowship or walking or abiding in Christ. (this is how I started out understanding it). Many commentators take this viewpoint
- 1 John: I started the study with J.V. McGee’s Five purposes: that you may have fellowship with God and Christ, THAT your joy may be made complete, THAT you may not sin; THAT you know you have eternal life; THAT you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ
- Now, weeks/months in and absorbing the book more—
- I propose these 4 purposes for the Address of John to believers: 1. That we Believe in Him, 2. That We Know Him, 3. That We Abide in Him, 4. That We Know that we Abide/ are in Him



# 1 John Statement of Purpose I: *That We **Believe** in Him*

- This is His commandment: **that we believe** in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, *[and love one another, just as He commanded us]* (3:23)
- To believe (Him) in (Him saying/testimony) that we (have already) the eternal life
- From John's Fourth gospel: *“so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name”* (20:31)

**1 Jn 5:9-12:** . . . .for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son. **10 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself;** the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. **11 And the testimony is this: that God has given us (the) eternal life, and this life is in His Son.** **12** He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.



# 1 John Statement of Purpose II: That We **Know** Him

*And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ.*

*This is the true God and eternal life. I John 5:20*

- He has come, and was manifested we beheld Him (1 Jn 1:1-3)
- He gave us understanding
- So that: (purpose) we may know Him (who is true)
- So that: we may know that we are ***in*** Him (who is true)
- Thus: we know the true God
- And we possess **the** eternal life which was with the Father (1 Jn 1:2)
- And that we may have fellowship with the Father and with His Son (1 Jn 1:3)



# 1 John Statement of Purpose III: That We **Abide** in Him

- You will abide in the Son and in the Father (1 Jn 2:24) *[if what you heard from the beginning abides in you]*
- You will abide in Him: *if His anointing (abides in you) and teaching abides in you* (2:27)
- You will abide in Him: *so that you will have confidence & not shrink away when He appears again* (2:28)



# 1 John Statement of Purpose IV: That We **KNOW** that we Abide in Him

- We know that **we** abide in Him: *because He has given us His Spirit* (4:13)
- We also know that **He** abides in us: *because He has given us His Spirit* (4:13): **“By this we know that [a.] we abide in Him and [b.] He (abides) in us, because He has given us of His Spirit”**
- What I think is the Source Text for John’s Address of 1 John:

**JOHN 15:** “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch (**abiding**) in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes (**CLEANSSES OF FILTH, DEBRIS, CUTS AWAY WORTHLESS OFF-SHOOTS**) it so that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean (**ETERNALLY; POSITIONALLY**) because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 **Abide in Me, and I in you.** As the branch **cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me.** 5 I am the vine, you are the branches; **he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit,** for apart from Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. 7 **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you [1 Jn 2:24],** ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. 9 Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; **abide in My love.** 10 **If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. (1 Jn 3:23 & 4:21)**

11 These things I have spoken to you **so that My joy may be (abide) in you, and (so) that your joy may be made full. [1 Jn 1:4]**



# 1<sup>st</sup> John 2: 9

The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now.

1. ***PRIOR CONTEXT to Vs. 9, 10, 11:*** John is addressing the Believer who:
  - a. Who knows Christ (2:3) - By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.
  - b. Who knows that he knows Christ = one who has the settled assurance of his faith
  - c. Who is keeping Christ's commandment to 'Love one another' (3:23) according to the standard: "As I have loved you" (John 13:34)
  - d. Who is also keeping His word (2:3): not just obeying a commandment- but living in the light/walking in the light; (1:7); [STANDARD: as He Himself is in the light (1:7)]
  - e. Who is abiding in Christ (1:6; 2:28)
  - f. Who is in fellowship with the Father and with the Son (1:3)
  - g. Who has fellowship with John and the rest of the 11 apostles ("us"- 1:3) and extended to fellow believers ("one another"- 1:7)





# 1<sup>st</sup> John 2: 9

The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now.

## 1. **Points on Verse 9:**

- a. Contrast this true axiom: *'but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another'* 1 JOHN 1:7 with the false statement stated above and see how they are in opposition to each other
- b. The verse above says that if we are walking / abiding in Christ (the light) we have fellowship with one another. 'One another' with other believers, ie. Our brother
- c. The "one" man in Vs. 9 is having the opposite of fellowship with his brother, is he not?
- d. "is in darkness until now" = the opposite of being "in the light" as the False Claimant says.
- e. The opposite of being in the light (the sinless life energized by the indwelling life of Christ)— is darkness;
- f. light is the positive absence of sin;
- g. darkness is the presence of sin and happens when the believer does not abide in Christ.



# 1<sup>st</sup> John 2: 10,11

10 The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him. 11 But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

## 1. Verse 10 - 11:

- a. Stands in POSITIVE stark contrast to Verse 9: *“The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now”*
- b. The believer in Verse 10 is a “son of the light” and a “son of the day” (daylight) [from 1 Th 5:5], he is at home in / resting in / remaining in / hanging out in the day
- c. **One** v. **One**: The “one” in 2:9 **versus** the “one” in 2:10— Vs. 9’s “one” man is hating his brother and Vs. 10’s “one” is loving his brother. The Vs. 10 “one” is remaining/ at home in the Light. And so: no sin obstacle is in front of him to trip him up. His “eye is clear” and his eye acts as a headlamp to see things ahead of him (Luke 11:33-36)
- d. Again: *‘but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another’* 1 **JOHN** 1:7 We see that a byproduct, a fruit of walking in the Light is “fellowship” / **koinōnia** / *shared association, communion, intercourse, intimacy* / with our fellow ones in Christ— the man in Verse 11 is not exhibiting **koinōnia**
- e. Q: **Is hate (?)**: impatient, jealous, arrogant, braggadocious, unbecoming, selfish, self-serving, easily provoked, keeps tabs on the wrongs of others, rejoicing in unrighteousness, has breakdowns from little or petty burdens, despairs and expresses hopelessness. [**1 Cor 13 in reverse**]



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## 2. **Verse 11: Stumbling & Blindness: best commentary comes from Jesus Himself:**

- a. Jn 11:9: Jesus answered, *“Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.”*
- b. **“THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND *RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND*, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, Luke 4:18**
- c. Luke 6:39: And He also spoke a parable to them: *“A blind man cannot guide a blind man, can he? Will they not both fall into a pit?”* Compare this to the “one” in Vs. 11 who does not know where he is going, they both are directionless, have no true navigation system.
- d. Luke 11:33-36: *“No one, after lighting a lamp, puts it away in a cellar nor under a basket, but on the lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. The eye is the lamp of your body; when your eye is clear, your whole body also is full of light; but when it is bad, your body also is full of darkness. Then watch out that the light in you is not darkness. If therefore your whole body is full of light, with no dark part in it, it will be wholly illumined, as when the lamp illumines you with its rays.*



# Abide in Christ, the Vine

JN 15:1-12

**Menō** = to

- Remain
- Remain in place
- Shelter in place
- Sojourn
- Tarry
- Continue in . . .
- Continue to be present
- Be at home with. . .
- Make your abode with . . .
- Dwell
- Hang out

**Bear His fruit; and ABIDE- menō**

Gal. 5:22-25

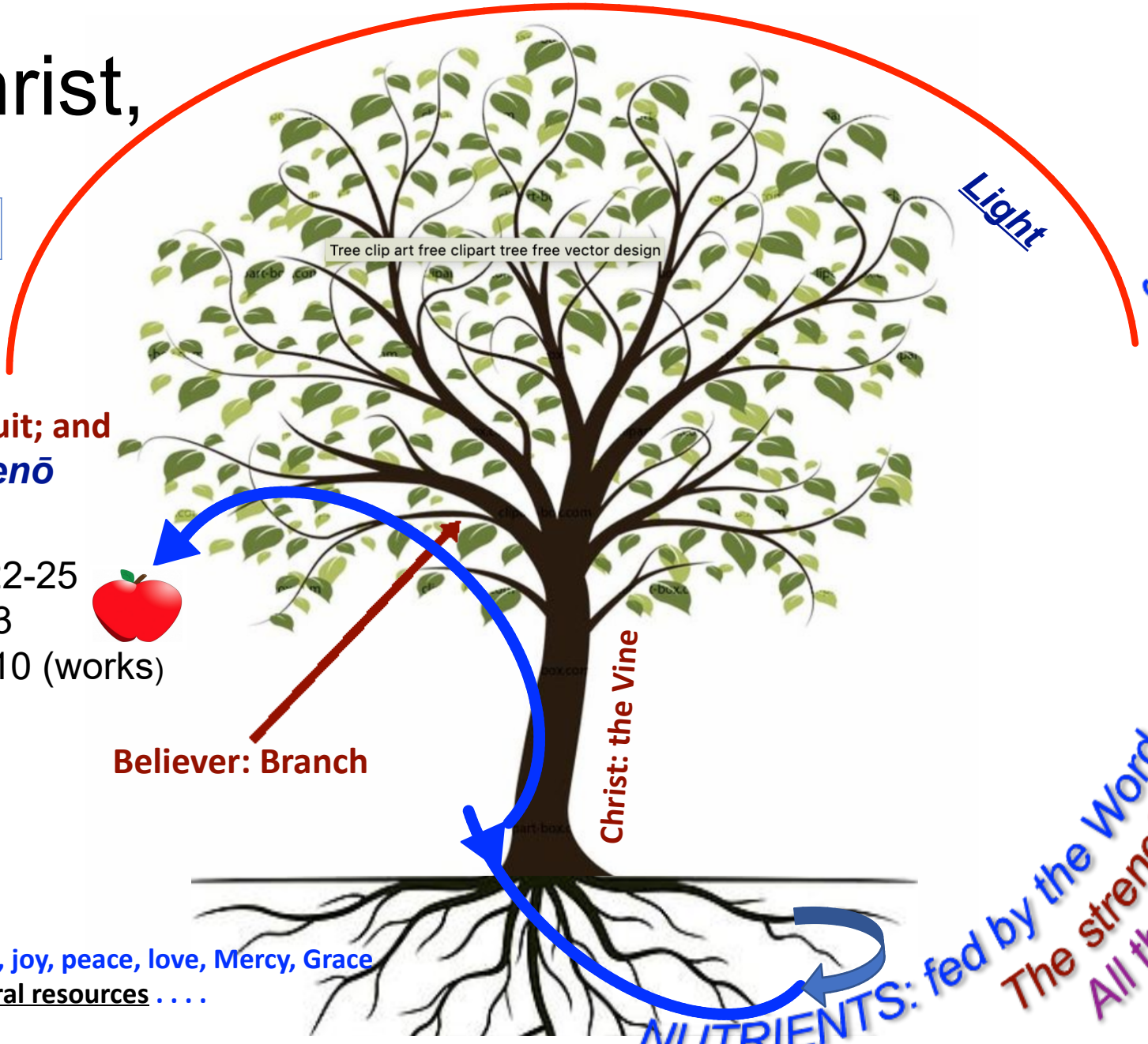
I Cor. 13

Eph. 2:10 (works)



**Believer: Branch**

**Christ: the Vine**



**Light**

*fed by the Word- the "sap", the "fatness" of the Vine is from the d  
The strength & quality of the Vine has is at the d*

**Rooted in: the source, Eternal Life in the Father, joy, peace, love, Mercy, Grace +R, Holiness, Omnipotency, Infinite, supernatural resources . . . .**

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# Abide in Self

**Menō** = to

- Remain
- Remain in place
- Shelter in place
- Sojourn
- Tarry
- Continue in . . .
- Continue to be present
- Be at home with. . .
- Make your abode with . . .
- Dwell
- Hang out

Bearing the deeds of the flesh; by **ABIDING- menō**

*Gal. 5:19-21*

**Rooted in: the source- Adam, self, self-confidence, talents, strengths, weaknesses, emotions, the soul, religion, achievement; Earthly, temporal resources**

