

1ST JOHN

¹ That thing that was from the beginning, which we heard, which we saw with our eyes, which we beheld, and our hands touched, of the word of life;

² and the life is showed. And we saw, and witness, and tell to you the everlasting life, that was with the Father, and appeared to us.

³ Therefore that thing, that we saw, and heard, we tell to you, that also ye have fellowship with us, and our fellowship be with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

⁴ And we write this thing to you, that ye have joy, and that your joy be full.

⁵ And this is the telling, that we heard of him, and tell to you, that God is light, and there be no darkneses in him.

⁶ If we say, that we have fellowship with him, and we wander in darkneses, we lie, and do not truth.

⁷ But if we walk in light, as also he is in light, we have fellowship together; 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 truth is not in us.

⁹ If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just, that he forgive to us our sins, and cleanse us from all wickedness.

¹⁰ And if we say, that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

CHAPTER 2

¹ My little sons, I write to you these things, that ye sin not. But if any man sinneth, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ [*just*],

² and he is the forgiveness [*or helping*] for our sins; and not only for our *sins*, but also for *the sins* of all the world.

³ And in this thing we know, that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

⁴ He that saith that he knoweth God, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and truth is not in him.

⁵ But the charity of God is perfect verily in him, that keepeth his word, [*or Forsooth who keepeth his word, verily in him is perfect charity*]. In this thing we know, that we be in him, if we be perfect in him.

⁶ He that saith, that he dwelleth in him, he oweth to walk, as he walked.

⁷ Most dear *brethren*, I write to you, not a new commandment, but the old commandment, that ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word, that ye heard.

⁸ Again I write to you a new commandment, that is true both in him and in you; for darkneses be passed, and very light shineth now.

⁹ He that saith, that he is in light, and hateth his brother, is in darkneses yet.

¹⁰ He that loveth his brother, dwelleth in light, and cause of stumbling is not in him.

¹¹ But he that hateth his brother, is in darkneses, and wandereth in darkneses, and

knoweth not whither he goeth; for darkneses have blinded his eyes.

¹² Little sons, I write to you, that your sins be forgiven to you for his name.

¹³ Fathers, I write to you, for ye have known him, that is from the beginning. Young men, I write to you, for ye have overcome the wicked. I write to you, young children [*or infants*], for ye have known the Father.

¹⁴ I write to you, brethren, for ye have known him, that is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, for ye be strong, and the word of God dwelleth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked.

¹⁵ Do not ye love the world, nor those things that be in the world. If any man loveth the world, the charity of the Father is not in him.

¹⁶ For all thing that is in the world, is covetousness of flesh, and covetousness of eyes, and pride of life, which is not of the Father, but it is of the world.

¹⁷ And the world shall pass, and the covetousness of it; but he that doeth the will of God, dwelleth [*into*] without end.

¹⁸ My little sons, the last hour is; and as ye have heard, that antichrist cometh, now many antichrists be made; wherefore we know, that it is the last hour.

¹⁹ They went forth from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they had dwelt with us; but that they be known, that they be not all of us.

²⁰ But ye have anointing [*or unction*] of the Holy Ghost, and know all things.

²¹ I wrote not to you, as to men that know not the truth, but as to men that know it, and for each leasing is not of truth.

²² Who is a liar, but this that denieth that Jesus is not Christ? This is antichrist, that denieth the Father, and the Son.

²³ For each that denieth the Son, hath not the Father; but he that acknowledgeth the Son, hath also the Father.

²⁴ That thing that ye heard at [*or from*] the beginning, dwell it in you; for if that thing dwelleth in you, which ye heard at the beginning, ye shall dwell in the Son and in the Father.

²⁵ And this is the promise, that he promised to us, everlasting life.

²⁶ I wrote these things to you, of them that deceive you,

²⁷ and that the anointing which ye received of him, dwell in you. And ye have not need, that any man teach you, but as his anointing teacheth you of all things, and it is true, and it is not leasing; and as he taught you, dwell ye in him.

²⁸ And now, ye little sons, dwell ye in him, that when he shall appear, we have trust, and be not confounded of him in his coming.

²⁹ If ye know that he is just, know ye that also each that doeth rightwiseness, is born of him.

CHAPTER 3

¹ See ye what manner charity the Father gave to us, that we be named the sons of God, and be *his sons*. For this thing the world knew not us, for it knew not him.

² Most dear *brethren*, now we be the sons of God, and yet it appeared not, what we shall be. We know, that when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

³ And each man that hath this hope in him, maketh himself holy, as he is holy.

⁴ Each man that doeth sin, doeth also wickedness, and sin is wickedness.

⁵ And ye know, that he appeared to do away sins, and sin is not in him.

⁶ Each man that dwelleth in him, sinneth not; and each that sinneth, seeth not him, neither knew him.

⁷ Little sons, no man deceive you; he that doeth rightwiseness, is just, as also he is just.

⁸ He that doeth sin, is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. In this thing the Son of God appeared, that he undo the works of the devil.

⁹ Each man that is born of God, doeth not sin; for the seed of God dwelleth in him, and he may not do sin, for he is born of God.

¹⁰ In this thing the sons of God be known, and the sons of the fiend. Each man that is not just, is not of God, and he that loveth not his brother [*is not of God*].

¹¹ For this is the telling, that ye heard at the beginning, that ye love each other;

¹² not as Cain, that was of the devil, and slew his brother. And for what thing slew he him? for his works were evil, and his brother's just.

¹³ Brethren, do not ye wonder, if the world hateth you.

14 We know, that we be translated from death to life, for we love brethren. He that loveth not, dwelleth in death.

15 Each man that hateth his brother, is a manslayer; and ye know, that each manslayer hath not everlasting life dwelling in him.

16 In this thing we have known the charity of God, for he put his life for us, and we owe to put our lives for our brethren.

17 He that hath the chattel [*or the substance*] of this world, and seeth that his brother hath need, and closeth his entrails from him, how dwelleth the charity of God in him?

18 My little sons, love we not in word, neither in tongue, but in work and truth.

19 In this thing we know, that we be of truth, and in his sight we admonish our hearts.

20 For if our heart reproveth us, God is more than our heart, and knoweth all things.

21 Most dear *brethren*, if our heart reproveth not us, we have trust to God;

22 and whatever we shall ask, we shall receive of him, for we keep his commandments, and we do those things that be pleasant before him.

23 And this is the commandment of God, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and that we love each other, as he gave behest to us.

24 And he that keepeth his commandments, dwelleth in him, and he in him. And in this thing we know, that he dwelleth in us, by the Spirit, whom he gave to us.

CHAPTER 4

¹ Most dear *brethren*, do not ye believe to each spirit, but prove ye the spirits, if they be of God; for many false prophets went out into the world.

² In this thing the Spirit of God is known; each spirit that acknowl-edgeth that Jesus Christ hath come in flesh, is of God;

³ and each spirit that undoeth Jesus, is not of God. And this is antichrist, of whom ye have heard, that he cometh; and right now he is in the world.

⁴ Ye, little sons, be of God, and ye have overcome him; for he that is in you is more, than he that *is* in the world.

⁵ They be of the world, therefore they speak of the world, and the world heareth them.

⁶ We be of God; he that knoweth God, heareth us; he that is not of God, heareth not us. In this thing we know the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

⁷ Most dear *brethren*, love we together, for charity is of God; and each that loveth his brother, is born of God, and knoweth God.

⁸ He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is charity.

⁹ In this thing, the charity of God appeared in us, for God sent his one begotten Son into the world, that we live by him.

¹⁰ In this thing is charity, not as we had loved God, but for he first loved us, and sent his Son forgiveness [*or helping*] for our sins.

¹¹ Ye most dear *brethren*, if God loved us, we owe to love each other.

12 No man saw ever God; if we love together, God dwelleth in us, and the charity of him is perfect in us.

13 In this thing we know, that we dwell in him, and he in us; for of his Spirit he gave to us.

14 And we saw, and witness, that the Father sent his Son Saviour of the world.

15 Whoever acknowledgeth, that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

16 And we have known, and believe to the charity, that God hath in us. God is charity, and he that dwelleth in charity, dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17 In this thing is the perfect charity of God with us [*or in us*], that we have trust in the day of doom; for as he is, also we be in this world.

18 Dread is not in charity, but perfect charity putteth out dread; for dread hath pain. But he that dreadeth, is not perfect in charity.

19 Therefore love we God, for he loved us before [*or he former loved us*].

20 If any man saith, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar. For he that loveth not his brother, whom he seeth, how may he love God, whom he seeth not?

21 And we have this commandment of God, that he that loveth God, love also his brother.

CHAPTER 5

1 Each man that believeth that Jesus is Christ, is born of God; and each man that loveth him that engendered [*or that engendereth*], loveth him that is born of him.

² In this thing we know, that we love the children of God, when we love God, and do his commandments.

³ For this is the charity of God, that we keep his commandments; and his commandments be not heavy [*or grievous*].

⁴ For all thing that is born of God, overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, our faith.

⁵ And who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶ This is Jesus Christ, that came by water and blood; not in water only, but in water and blood. And the Spirit is he that witnesseth, that Christ is [*the*] truth.

⁷ For three be, that give witnessing in heaven, the Father, the Son [*or the Word*], and the Holy Ghost; and these three be one.

⁸ And three be, that give witnessing in earth, the Spirit, water, and blood; and these three be one.

⁹ If we receive the witnessing of men, the witnessing of God is more; for this is the witnessing of God, that is more, for he witnessed of his Son.

¹⁰ He that believeth in the Son of God, hath the witnessing of God in him. He that believeth not to the Son, maketh him a liar; for he believeth not in the witnessing that God witnessed of his Son.

¹¹ And this is the witnessing, for God gave to you [*or to us*] everlasting life, and this life is in his Son.

¹² He that hath the Son *of God*, hath also life; he that hath not the Son *of God*, hath not life.

¹³ I write to you these things, that ye know, that ye have everlasting life, which believe in the name of God's Son.

¹⁴ And this is the trust which we have to God [*or that we have in God*], that whatever thing we ask after his will, he shall hear us.

¹⁵ And we know, that he heareth us, whatever thing we [*shall*] ask; we know, that we have the askings, that we ask of him.

¹⁶ He that knoweth that his brother sinneth a sin not to death, ask he, and life shall be given to him that sinneth not to death. There is a sin to death; not for it I say, that any man pray.

¹⁷ Each wickedness is sin, and there is [*a*] sin to death.

¹⁸ We know, that each man that is born of God, sinneth not; but the generation of God keepeth him, and the wicked toucheth him not.

¹⁹ We know, that we be of God, and all the world is set in evil.

²⁰ And we know, that the Son of God came in flesh, and gave to us wit, that we know him very God, and be in the very Son [*Jesus*] of him. This is very God, and everlasting life.

²¹ My little sons, keep ye you from maumets [*or from simulacra*]. My little sons, keep away from idols. [*Amen.*]

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Wycliffe's Bible with Modern Spelling, was made in response to requests from readers who wanted my Wycliffe's Old and New Testaments and Apocrypha in one volume. Printing limitations dictated the number of pages available to me and the letter size. In my previous books, Wycliffe's Bible, Wycliffe's Old Testament, Vols. 1 amp 2, Wycliffe's New Testament, and Wycliffe's Apocrypha, I have tens of thousands of rewritten verses, presented in parentheses "()", to provide help in comprehending the 14th century Middle English vocabulary and grammar. In this present volume, with space at a premium, those "helps" had to be eliminated, to make room for the text of the Apocrypha.

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