

THE FIRST EPISTLE *of* JOHN

Wycliffe-Purvey, 1395

Chapter 1

1:1 That thing that was from the beginning [Which thing 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;

1:2 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.

1:3 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.

1:4 And we write this thing to you [And this thing we write to you], that ye have joy, and that your joy be full.

1:5 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.

1:6 If we say, that we have fellowship with him, and we wander in darkneses, we lie, and do not truth.

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Chapter 1

1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;

1:2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen *it*, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

1:4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

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1:7 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.

1:8 If we say, that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and truth is not in us.

1:9 If we acknowledge our sins, he is faithful and just, that he forgive to us our sins, and cleanse us from all wickedness.

1:10 And if we say [If we say], that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Chapter 2

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],

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

2:3 And in this thing we know, that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

2:4 He that saith that he knoweth God, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and truth is not in him.

2:5 But the charity of God is perfect verily in him, that keepeth his word [Forsooth who keepeth his word, verily in him

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1:7 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.

1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Chapter 2

2:1 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:

2:2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for *the sins of* the whole world.

2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

2:5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

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is perfect charity]. In this thing we know, that we be in him, if we be perfect in him.

2:6 He that saith, that he dwelleth in him, he oweth to walk, as he walked.

2:7 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.

2:8 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 [and very light now shineth].

2:9 He that saith, that he is in light, and hateth his brother, is in darkneses yet [is in darkness till to yet].

2:10 He that loveth his brother, dwelleth in light, and cause of stumbling is not in him [and offence is not in him].

2:11 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.

2:12 Little sons, I write to you, that your sins be forgiven to you for his name.

2:13 Fathers, I write to you, for ye have known him, that is from the

2:6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

2:7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

2:8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

2:9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

2:10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

2:11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

2:12 I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

2:13 I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him *that is* from the

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

beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

2:14 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.

2:14 I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him *that is* from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

2:15 Do not ye love the world, nor those things that be in the world [neither those things that be in the world]. If any man loveth the world, the charity of the Father is not in him.

2:15 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

2:16 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.

2:16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

2:17 And the world shall pass, and the covetousness of it; but he that doeth the will of God, dwelleth without end [dwelleth into without end].

2:17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

2:18 My little sons, the last hour is; and as ye have heard, that antichrist cometh, now many antichrists be made; wherefore we know [whereof we know], that it is the last hour.

2:18 Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

2:19 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 [but that they be known, that they be not of us].

2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would *no doubt* have continued with us: but *they went out*, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

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2:20 But ye have anointing of the Holy Ghost, and know all things. [But ye have unction of the Holy Ghost, and know all things.]

2:21 I wrote not to you, as to men that know not the truth, but as to men that know it, and for each lying is not of truth.

2:22 Who is a liar, but this that denieth that Jesus is not Christ? This is antichrist, that denieth the Father, and the Son.

2:23 For each that denieth the Son, hath not the Father; but he that acknowledgeth the Son, hath also the Father.

2:24 That thing that ye heard at the beginning, dwell it in you [That thing that ye heard from the beginning, dwell in you]; for if that thing dwelleth in you [for if it shall dwell in you], which ye heard at the beginning, [and] ye shall dwell in the Son and in the Father.

2:25 And this is the promise, that he promised to us everlasting life.

2:26 I wrote these things to you, of them that deceive you,

2:27 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 lying; and as he taught you, dwell ye in him.

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2:20 But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.

2:21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

2:23 Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: *(but) he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.*

2:24 Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father.

2:25 And this is the promise that he hath promised us, *even* eternal life.

2:26 These *things* have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you.

2:27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

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2:28 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.

2:29 If ye know that he is just, know ye that also each that doeth rightwiseness, is born of him.

Chapter 3

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 [For this thing the world knoweth not us, for it knoweth not him].

3:2 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.

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

3:4 Each man that doeth sin, doeth also wickedness, and sin is wickedness.

3:5 And ye know, that he appeared to do away sins, and sin is not in him.

3:6 Each man that dwelleth in him, sinneth not; and each that sinneth, seeth not him, neither knew him.

3:7 Little sons, no man deceive you; he that doeth rightwiseness, is just, as

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2:28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

2:29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.

Chapter 3

3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

3:6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

3:7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness

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also he is just.

3:8 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.

3:9 Each man that is born of God, doeth not sin; for the seed of God dwelleth in him, and he may not do sin [and he may not sin], for he is born of God.

3:10 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 [and he that loveth not his brother, *is not of God*].

3:11 For this is the telling, that ye heard at the beginning, that ye love each other;

3:12 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.

3:13 Brethren, do not ye wonder, if the world hateth you.

3:14 We know, that we be translated from death to life, for we love brethren. He that loveth not, dwelleth in death.

3:15 Each man that hateth his brother, is a manslayer; and ye know, that each manslayer hath not everlasting life dwelling in him.

is righteous, even as he is righteous.

3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

3:10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

3:11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

3:12 Not as Cain, *who* was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

3:13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.

3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death.

3:15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

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3:16 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.

3:16 Hereby perceive we the love *of God*, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

3:17 He that hath the chattel of this world, and seeth that his brother hath need [He that shall have the substance of this world, and shall see his brother have need], and closeth his entrails from him, how dwelleth the charity of God in him?

3:17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

3:18 My little sons, love we not in word, neither in tongue, but in work and truth.

3:18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

3:19 In this thing we know, that we be of truth, and in his sight we admonish our hearts.

3:19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.

3:20 For if our heart reprove us, God is more than our heart, and knoweth all things.

3:20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

3:21 Most dear *brethren*, if our heart reproveth not us, we have trust to God;

3:21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God.

3:22 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.

3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

3:23 And this is the commandment of God, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and that we love each other [And this is the commandment of him, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love each other], as he gave behest to us.

3:23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

3:24 And he that keepeth his

3:24 And he that keepeth his

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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.

commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

Chapter 4

Chapter 4

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.

4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

4:2 In this thing the Spirit of God is known; each spirit that acknowledgeth that Jesus Christ hath come in flesh, is of God;

4:2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

4:3 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.

4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that *spirit* of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

4:4 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.

4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

4:5 They be of the world, therefore they speak of the world, and the world heareth them.

4:5 They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.

4:6 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.

4:6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

4:7 Most dear *brethren*, love we together, for charity is of God; and each that loveth his brother, is born of God,

4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth

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and knoweth God.

God.

4:8 He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is charity.

4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

4:9 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.

4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

4:10 In this thing is charity, not as we had loved God, but for he first loved us, and sent his Son forgiveness for our sins [and sent his Son helping for our sins].

4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

4:11 Ye most dear *brethren*, if God loved us, [and] we owe to love each other.

4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

4:12 No man saw ever God; if we love together, God dwelleth in us, and the charity of him is perfect in us.

4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

4:13 In this thing we know, that we dwell in him, and he in us; for of his Spirit he gave to us.

4:13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

4:14 And we saw, and witness, that the Father sent his Son Saviour of the world.

4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

4:15 Whoever acknowledgeth [Whoever shall acknowledge], that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

4:16 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.

4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

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4:17 In this thing is the perfect charity of God with us [In this thing is the perfect charity of God in us], that we have trust in the day of doom; for as he is, also we be in this world.

4:18 Dread is not in charity, but perfect charity putteth out dread [but perfect charity sendeth out dread]; for dread hath pain. But he that dreadeth, is not perfect in charity.

4:19 Therefore love we God, for he loved us before. [+Therefore love we God, for he before loved us/for he former loved us.]

4:20 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?

4:21 And we have this commandment of God, that he that loveth God, love also his brother.

Chapter 5

5:1 Each man that believeth that Jesus is Christ, is born of God; and each man that loveth him that engendered [and each that loveth him that gendereth], loveth him that is born of him.

5:2 In this thing we know, that we love the children of God, when we love God, and do his commandments.

5:3 For this is the charity of God, that we keep his commandments; and his commandments be not heavy [and his commandments be not grievous].

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4:17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

4:18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

4:21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

Chapter 5

5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.

5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.

5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

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5:4 For all thing that is born of God, overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, our faith.

5:4 For whatsoever is born of *God* overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our faith.

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

5:5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

5:6 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.

5:6 This is he that came by water and blood, *even* Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.

5:7 For three be, that give witnessing in heaven, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost [For three be, that bear witness in heaven, the Father, the Word, *or Son*, and the Holy Ghost]; and these three be one.

5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

5:8 And three be, that give witnessing in earth, the Spirit, water, and blood; and these three be one.

5:8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

5:9 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.

5:9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

5:10 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.

5:10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

5:11 And this is the witnessing, for God gave to you everlasting life [for God gave to us everlasting life], and this life is in his Son.

5:11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

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5:12 He that hath the Son *of God*, hath also life [He that hath the Son, hath life]; he that hath not the Son *of God*, hath not life.

5:13 I write to you these things, that ye know, that ye have everlasting life, which believe in the name of God's Son.

5:14 And this is the trust which we have to God [And this is the trust that we have in God], that whatever thing we ask after his will, he shall hear us.

5:15 And we know, that he heareth us, whatever thing we ask; we know, that we have the askings, that we ask of him [which we ask of him].

5:16 He that knoweth that his brother sinneth a sin not to death [He that knoweth his brother to sin 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.

5:17 Each wickedness is sin, and there is [a] sin to death.

5:18 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.

5:19 We know, that we be of God, and all the world is set in evil [and all the world is put in wicked].

5:20 And we know, that the Son of

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5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

5:14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

5:15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

5:16 If any man see his brother sin a sin *which is* not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

5:17 All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.

5:18 We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

5:19 *And* we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.

5:20 And we know that the Son of

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

5:21 My little sons, keep ye you from maumets. [Amen.] [Little sons, keep ye you from simulacra, *or covetousness*. Amen.]

KJV, 1611

God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

5:21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.