

# "Sin Or Savior"

1 John 2:1-2

The Book of 1<sup>st</sup> John "**Contextual Introduction**"

1. **CONTEXT:**

**Author** - John; apostle of Jesus; previous O.J.T.  
with John the Baptist

**Audience**

- Same 7 churches of Revelation 2-3...
- Churches "under attack" by *the familiar but unfaithful* (2:19/2:26)

**Atmosphere** - cultural, philosophical, moral,  
spiritual "mess"

2. **CONTENT:**

**1 Passion:** bringing **glory to God** thru the  
sharing & spreading of the **Gospel**  
of Jesus, the Christ.

**2 Priorities:** **Define & Defend** TRUE Church

**3 Pillars:** **Truth, Love, Faithful Obedience**

**4 Purposes:**

- A. **Promote** "koinonia" / joy (1:3-4)
- B. **Prevent** sin (2:1)
- C. **Protect** VS false teachers (2:26)
- D. **Provide** "assurance" (5:13)

**5 Pragmatic Proofs:**

- A. Ch.1: **WALK** (in light vs. dark)
- B. Ch. 2: **OBEY** (vs. disobey God)
- C. Ch. 3: **PATTERN** (...the real story)
- D. Ch. 4: **WORSHIPFUL** (vs. worldly)
- E. Ch. 5: **KNOW** God (vs. "NO! God")

3. CONCLUSION: 1<sup>st</sup> John is literally a God-given model for us to use as we champion Christ's love & light; while simultaneously combating today's modern heresies & false teachers.

**T/S:** Today's message...

## ***"Sin Or Savior"***

1 John 2:1-2

***My little children,  
I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.  
And if anyone sins,  
we have an Advocate  
with the Father,  
Jesus Christ  
the righteous;  
and  
He Himself is the propitiation  
for our sins;  
and  
not for our (sins) only,  
but also for those (sins) of the whole world.***

Line 1: ***"My little children"*** = this is a term of endearment... a loving introduction.

Line 2: Gives context to the content... both in terms of the previous & forthcoming...

A). ***“I am writing these things”*** =  
the comprehensive content of ch.1

**T/S: “these things” = REVIEW ch.1**

*Week #1*

***“Truth we KNOW”***

**vv.1-2 = TRUTH we KNOW! Jesus is Lord/Light!**

*Week #2*

***“Ekklesia in KOINONIA”***

**vv.3-4 = so that...KOINONIA: Vertical & Horizontal**

*(v.3 = ...what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also,  
so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our  
fellowship is with the Father,  
and with His Son Jesus Christ.)*



**Darkness** = spiritual/moral depravity

John \*\*\*12:46\*\*\* = "I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.

2 Timothy 3:1-5 = (Portrait of "Dark church")

**v.6** = If we say that we have **fellowship with Him** and yet **walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;**

God's Word declares that we are defined by our walk... regardless of our talk. - JDP

**"Walk"** = a person's spiritual signature...

Colossians 2:6 = Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,

2 Thessalonians 3:6 = Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother who walks irresponsibly and not according to the tradition received from us.

**v.7** = **but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

**To “walk in the Light” is to “be/walk in-Christ”**

**\* koinonia is the fruit of walking washed in the Light**

**v.8 = If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.**

God's Truth is not in those who fail God's test.

**Even sincerity is no substitute for Truth! - JDP**

**v.9 = If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**Provide ASSURANCE to the Saints**

The sweet gift of grace & the very essence  
of the Gospel of Jesus, the Christ

**Note:** This is a conditional promise...  
That said... praise God because “all” means ALL!

**Confession = REPENTENCE!**

Walk out of darkness...

Walk IN (and stay in) the Light!

*“to forgive us our sins...  
and cleanse us from ALL unrighteousness” =*

**GOSPEL Assurance!**

- “All the SAINTS... have been cleansed of ALL their SINS... Amen!” - JDP

**v.10 = *If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.***

**Thus...** God’s Word says:

***Somebody’s LYING!***

**T/S:** ...back to 1 John 2:1b...

B). “***so that***” expresses “purpose”

C). “***that you may not sin***” = one of John’s overt objectives

**QUESTION:** **Why not sin?**  
**What’s the big deal?**

Line 3: ***“if anyone sins”*** = this phrase  
introduces a conditional contingency...

Line 4: ***“We have an Advocate”*** =

A). “Advocate” = **One who comes along side...** elsewhere “Counselor”

B). This is an expression of both holy hope & blessed assurance

C). The Scriptures here introduce **“judicial language”** – a trial is underway!

### **CONSIDER:**

Whose on trial & why?  
Who is the Accuser  
Who is the Judge?  
Who is the Advocate?

D). Note: our Advocate is unlike any other!

\* See regarding our Advocate’s:

- Relationship to the Judge
- Relationship to history
- Relationship to humanity

\* See His unique defense strategy...  
***“Guilty! They’re ALL guilty!”***

Line 5: **“with the Father”** =

- A). Our Advocate is in with the Judge...
- B). The Judge is also our Father

Line 6: **“Jesus Christ”** = our “Advocate”

- A). Jesus is “just & Justifier” (Rom. 3:26)
- B). Remember: “Christ” is His title...
- C). “Jesus” was a common name...
- D). “Christ” is unique amongst all creation!
- E). “Christ” declares His:
  - 1. Authority
  - 2. Power
  - 3. Worth

Line 7: **“the righteous”** = this is yet another unique  
& divinely qualifying title

Line 8: **“and”** = but wait... there's more! Don't lose sight of the compounding grace.

Line 9: **“He Himself is our propitiation”** = unfathomable, worship-worthy reality!

- A). Note: *“He Himself”* = *“Christ” / Jesus...*
- B). Also: *“He Himself”* = *“the righteous”*
- C). *“our propitiation”* = By definition, HE satisfies our death sentence...
- D). Question: What makes His substitutionary sentence satisfactory?
- E). Answer: Jesus is the righteous Christ! Perfect covers imperfections.

***When our Advocate becomes  
our Propitiation...  
We walk out of court as  
His witnesses!***

(Acts 1:8... “witnesses” = martyrs)

Line 10: **“for our sins”** =

- A). Our sins are the reason we...
- \* are on eternal trial.
  - \* need an Advocate.
  - \* need a propitiation.
- B). Consequently...
- \* Our sins are damnable offenses...  
one unforgiven sin damns!
  - \* Our sins are deadly serious to  
God... look to hell & the cross!
  - \* Our sins are bigger than us and  
beyond us... we need a Savior!
  - \* Our sins are never ignored...
  - \* Our sins are going to be paid for by  
someone...
  - Our sins have a “pain-price-quotient”  
(consider the following...)

**NOTE:** Everything that is “paid for” has a definitive “price.” There is no such thing as a “free, paid-for” transaction. Thus... every damnable sin that is “paid for” by the propitiation that is Christ – (His crucified body and spilt blood)... every one of those sins has an agonizing, torturous, flesh-shredding, blood-spilling, and nail-piercing pain-price quotient. (Re-read v.1 realizing that the Christian’s sins are paid for with Christ’s cross-cash.)

Line 11: **“and”** = again, there’s more!

Line 12: ***“not for our sins only”*** =

- A). Christ did not champion a “click”
- B). Christ did not cleanse a “country”

Line 13: ***“but also for the sins of the whole world.”***

- A). Christ did not contradict Himself...
- B). Christ was crucified for His Church!

# Let's Pray!

**T/S:**

**Video:**

**“You Make Beautiful Things”**

**WORSHIP TEAM...**