

First John 1:5-2:1

- 1) The standard—⁵ *And this is* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *the message* [ἀγγελία] (only other NT use is in 3:11; word group uses in 1:2-4) *that we have heard* [pf. act. ind. ἀκούω] (by revelation, not discovery) *from Him* (Jesus Christ) *and are announcing* [pres. act. ind. ἀναγγέλλω] *to you*^{pl},
 - a) Content—1:5b *that* [ὅτι] ...
 - i) Positively; His essence: *God* (the Father) *is* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *light* [φῶς] (moral goodness, truth, righteousness and holiness) (cf. John 4:24; 8:12; 1st John 4:8, 16)
 - ii) Negatively: *and in Him* (the Father) *is* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *no darkness* [σκοτία], *none at all*.
 - b) Every true Christian will manifest some aspect of their Father's character.
- 2) Claim & correction # 1—1:6-7 [Characteristics of lifestyle]
 - a) Claim # 1—1:6 (denial of the sinfulness of sin; possibly unregenerate people)
 - i) Possibility (3rd class)—⁶ *If* [ἐάν] *we should say* [aor. act. subj. λέγω] *that we are having* [pres. act. ind. ἔχω] **fellowship** [κοινωνία] (emphatic) *with Him* (the Father), *and in the darkness* [σκότος] (emphatic) *we are walking* [pres. act. subj. περιπατέω], (cf. John 8:12; Ephesians 5:8)
 - ii) Reality—two-fold
 - (1) Positively—*we are lying* [pres. dep. ind. ψεύδομαι],
 - (2) Negatively—*and we are not doing* [pres. act. ind. ποιέω] *the truth* [ἀλήθεια] ... (i.e. not being obedient to God's Word; cf. John 3:21)
 - b) Correction # 1—1:7
 - i) Possibility (3rd class)—⁷ *but if* [ἐάν] *in the light* [φῶς] *we keep on walking* [pres. act. subj. περιπατέω]
 - (1) Who or what is the Standard?—*as He Himself* (emphatic) (the Father) *is* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *in the light* [φῶς],
 - (2) However, our conformity to the Standard will always be imperfect.
 - ii) Reality—two-fold
 - (1) Horizontally—*we are having* [pres. act. ind. ἔχω] **fellowship** [κοινωνία] *with one another*, (fellowship is encouraged by right living)
 - (2) Vertically—*and the blood* [αἷμα] *of Jesus Christ His Son is cleansing* [pres. act. ind. καθαρίζω] *us from each* [πᾶς] *sin* [ἁμαρτία]. (comprehensive, spiritual cleansing from every kind of sin; no sin is beyond His power of cleansing; John 13:10)
- 3) Claim & correction # 2—1:8-9 [Relationship to sin]
 - a) Claim # 2—1:8 (denial of the reality of personal sin)
 - i) Possibility (3rd class)—⁸ *If* [ἐάν] *we should say* [aor. act. subj. λέγω] *that we are not having* [pres. act. ind. ἔχω] *sin* [ἁμαρτία], (denial of the awareness of one's guilt before God—John 9:41; 15:22, 24)
 - ii) Reality
 - (1) Positively—*we are deceiving* [pres. act. ind. πλανῶ] *ourselves*
 - (2) Negatively—*and the truth* [ἀλήθεια] *is* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *not in us*. (cf. 1:6)
 - b) Correction # 2—1:9 (confession of sin, plus God the Father's character and conduct)

- i) Possibility—⁹ *If [ἐάν] we are confessing [pres. act. subj. ὁμολογέω] our sins [ἁμαρτία], (cf. Psalm 51; Acts 19:18-20) (because the light exposes our guilt)*
 - ii) Reality—*He (the Father) is faithful [πιστός] (reliable) and righteous [δίκαιος] (to condemn and forgive) in order that [ἵνα] He (the Father)*
 - (1) Debt canceled—*should forgive [aor. act. subj. ἀφίημι] our sins [ἁμαρτία]*
 - (2) Purity restored—*and should cleanse [aor. act. subj. καθαρίζω] us from each (every kind of) [πᾶς] unrighteousness [ἀδικία].*
- 4) Claim & correction # 3—1:10-2:1 [Recognizing the reality of our sin]
- a) Claim # 3—1:10 (denial of the acts of sin; claim of sinless perfection)
 - i) Possibility (3rd class)—¹⁰ *If [ἐάν] we should say [aor. act. subj. λέγω] that [ὅτι] we have not sinned [pf. act. ind. ἁμαρτάνω],*
 - ii) Reality
 - (1) Positively—*we are making [pres. act. ind. ποιέω] Him (the Father) a liar [ψεύστης]*
 - (2) Negatively—*and His Word [λόγος] is [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] not in us.*
 - (a) (cf. John 8:37)
 - b) Correction # 3—2:1b (the character of the Son, the unbroken relationship with the Father)
 - i) Possibility (3rd class)—*... and if [ἐάν] someone should (commit an act of) sin [aor. act. subj. ἁμαρτάνω],*
 - ii) Reality—*we are having [pres. act. ind. ἔχω] an Advocate [παράκλητος] with [πρός] the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous One [δίκαιος] (cf. Hebrews 7:25)*