

First John 2:12-14
Encouraging Reminders/Assurances of God's Work in Us

Introduction: Why write these things? (1) to comfort in light of God's high standard; (2) to encourage them of God's consistent expectations; and (3) to remind them of God's gracious provisions to live as He calls us.

- 1) Emphasis on the genuineness of their new birth [τεκνίον]—2:12-13b
 - a) In general—2:12 ¹² *I am writing* [pres. act. ind. γράφω] *to you^{pl}, little children* [τεκνίον], (cf. 2:1, 28)
 - i) Why? *that* [ὅτι] *your^{pl} sins* [ἁμαρτία] *have been forgiven* [pf. pass. ind. ἀφίημι] *you^{pl}* (by God the Father) *because of* [διὰ] *His* (Jesus) *name*.
 - (1) This permanent forgiveness is to be distinguished from the Father's repeated forgiveness of His child each time he confesses his sin and seeks restoration (1:9).
 - b) Specifically—2:13ab
 - i) Emphasis on relative **maturity**—2:13a ¹³ *I am writing* [pres. act. ind. γράφω] *to you^{pl}, fathers* [πατήρ],
 - (1) Why? *that* [ὅτι] *you^{pl} have known* [pf. act. ind. γινώσκω] *the One* (Jesus) *who has been from* [ἀπό] *the beginning* [ἀρχή]. (cf. 1:1)
 - ii) Emphasis on relative **youthfulness**—2:13b *I am writing* [pres. act. ind. γράφω] *to you^{pl}, young men* [νεανίσκος], (@ 24-40 years old)
 - (1) Why? *that* [ὅτι] *you^{pl} have conquered* [pf. act. ind. νικάω] *the* (maliciously) *evil one* [πονηρός] (Satan).
 - (a) Cf. John 17:15; 1st John 2:14; 3:12; 5:18-19
- 2) Emphasis on their submission to authority [παιδίον]—2:13c-14
 - a) In general—2:13c *I am writing* [pres. act. ind. γράφω] *to you^{pl}, children* [παιδίον],
 - i) Why? *that* [ὅτι] *you^{pl} know* [pf. act. ind. γινώσκω] *the Father* [πατήρ].
 - (1) By the Holy Spirit—Galatians 4:6
 - b) Specifically—2:14
 - i) Emphasis on relative **maturity**—¹⁴ *I have written* [aor. act. ind. γράφω] *to you^{pl}, fathers* [πατήρ],
 - (1) Why? *that* [ὅτι] *you^{pl} know* [pf. act. ind. γινώσκω] *Him* (Jesus) *who has been from* [ἀπό] *the beginning* [ἀρχή].
 - ii) Emphasis on relative **youthfulness**—*I have written* [aor. act. ind. γράφω] *to you^{pl}, young men* [νεανίσκος], (@ 25-40 years old)
 - (1) Why? *that* [ὅτι] ...
 - (a) *you^{pl} are* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *strong* [ἰσχυρός]
 - (b) *and the Word* [λόγος] *of God is residing* [pres. act. ind. μένω] *in you^{pl},*
 - (c) *and you^{pl} have conquered* [pf. act. ind. νικάω] *the* (maliciously) *evil one* [πονηρός] (Satan).