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1 John 5

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Matthew 16:16-18

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, ^b the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.

¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, ^c and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades ^d will not overcome it. ^e

NIV

We are the children of God by faith in the person Jesus the Christ. By believing God, that Jesus is the son of God who was promised and spoken of within the ancient scriptures, we have access to the Father and entrance into Heaven. Not by our works that anyone should boast forgetting to put his brother and sister before himself but by the work of Jesus upon the Cross and His life as He lived here on earth.

We believe that the Messiah was born in humility and proclaimed the message waited and longed for by the ancient prophets and sages. He is the Living Word of God manifested to us by His witness, the Holy Spirit. We know Him by His indwelling us not by fable or story but by truth. You know the truth when you know Christ personally because He is the Truth, the Life and the Way. You know God is not a liar when you have the Holy Spirit dwelling in you as you receive Him by faith as we claim in our sinner prayers that we were instructed to say as a statement of faith in Christ (Messiah).

1 John 5:2

² So you can find out how much you love God's children-your brothers and sisters in the Lord-by how much you love and obey God.

Do you Love God? Do you love your brothers and sisters? That is are they before you and do you speak sincerely to them? If you don't, how can you speak with sincerity to God, their Father and your Father when you pray?

1 John 5:3

³Loving God means doing what he tells us to do, and really, that isn't hard at all;

1 John 5:3

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

ASV

To abstain from sexual immorality, anger, hatred and all the grievous poisons of this world is the best thing one can do for themselves health wise. And entering the Kingdom of God requires leaving such things behind. Sexual immorality is a decision one makes and usually does not require mental conflict that is overwhelming. The enemy lies to us and makes us believe it is so.

Anger and bitterness may be learned since early childhood and can require more work. Perhaps a lifetime while we are in our fallen bodies.

1 John 5:4

⁴for every child of God can obey him, defeating sin and evil pleasure by trusting Christ to help him.

This is how we are more than conquers. We must trust Christ implicitly. He does not turn His ears deaf to us when we plead for help in turning from sin and its grip on our lives. But we must truly seek Him.

You must make sure that He is living in you by the power of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. That is accomplished by the sinner's prayer. God hears our prayers.

1 John 5:5

⁵But who could possibly fight and win this battle except by believing that Jesus is truly the Son of God?

1 John 5: 6 - 8

⁶⁻⁸ And we know he is, because God said so with a voice from heaven when Jesus was baptized, and again as he was facing death – yes, not only at his baptism but also as he faced death. And the Holy Spirit, forever truthful, says it too. So we have these three witnesses: the voice of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, the voice from heaven at Christ's baptism, and the voice before he died. And they all say the same thing: that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

The Apostles were witness of these things in their time, which is the voice from heaven that is testified in the Gospels. They understood that without the shedding of blood, there would be no remission of sins. The blood always spoke to them of God's provision for their sins as it was instructed to Moses. And once the Holy Spirit dwelling within them at the time of Pentecost forward, God's Spirit testifies within the believer that God is who He says He is. The Living Truth lives inside the believer. One Knows the Truth!

John 3:5-7

⁵ Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit^b gives birth to spirit.

⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You^c must be born again.'

NIV

Mark 14:24-25

²⁴ "This is my blood of the^b covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them.

²⁵ "I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God."

NIV

By receiving God's Holy Spirit, we now have a living hope dwelling inside of us. We are His children and His Holy Spirit dwells in us and tells us that this is true. We have His Spirit testifying within us!

Romans 8:15-17

¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship.^g And by him we cry, "Abba,^h Father."

¹⁶ **The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.**

¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs – heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

NIV

1 John 5:9

⁹We believe men who witness in our courts, and so surely we can believe whatever God declares. And God declares that Jesus is his Son.

Matthew 3:16-17

¹⁶As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him.

¹⁷**And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."**

NIV

Matthew 17:1-5

¹After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

²**There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.**

³Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

⁴Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

⁵**While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"**

NIV

1 John 5: 10 - 12

¹⁰All who believe this know in their hearts that it is true. If anyone doesn't believe this, he is actually calling God a liar because he doesn't believe what God has said about his Son.

¹¹And what is it that God has said? That he has given us eternal life and that this life is in his Son.

¹²So whoever has God's Son has life; whoever does not have his Son, does not have life.

John 3:19-21

¹⁹This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

²⁰Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

²¹But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."^h

John 3:16-18

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,^f that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

¹⁸**Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.^g** NIV

1 John 5: 13 - 18

¹³I have written this to you who believe in the Son of God so that you may know you have eternal life.

¹⁴And we are sure of this, that he will listen to us whenever we ask him for anything in line with his will.

¹⁵And if we really know he is listening when we talk to him and make our requests, then we can be sure that he will answer us.

¹⁶If you see a Christian sinning in a way that does not end in death, you should ask God to forgive him, and God will give him life unless he has sinned that one fatal sin. But there is that one sin which ends in death, and if he has done that, there is no use praying for him.

¹⁷Every wrong is a sin, of course. I'm not talking about these ordinary sins; I am speaking of that one that ends in death.

¹⁸No one who has become part of God's family makes a practice of sinning, for Christ, God's Son, holds him securely, and the devil cannot get his hands on him.

The one sin that leads to death is striving against God's Holy Spirit continually when one has the power to stop doing so. We cannot stop sinning completely but we cannot become complacent with our sin. We cannot live in darkness purposely as if nothing is wrong and call ourselves children of light. We work out our salvation with trembling and fear of God. We cannot be saved by works but we must recognize Jesus as King. We were slaves to sin and are purchased by the blood of Christ. His blood was shed for the remission of sins. So, ask God to help you be removed from any desire to turn to darkness. When we see Him, then we shall be like Him until then we look through a darkened glass and we forget the brightness of His countenance. So we look to the mirror which refers to the Bible to cleanse our hearts and minds from the detestable things of this world.

God can truly turn you around but you must be seeking this as well. This is what you must want – to leave sin and seek a purer walk with God. John's letters of love encourage believers to do what is right amongst themselves by loving one and each other as we should. With this support of loving believers, we have the power to conquer sin.

1 John 5: 19 - 21

¹⁹We know that we are children of God and that all the rest of the world around us is under Satan's power and control.

²⁰And we know that Christ, God's Son, has come to help us understand and find the true God. And now we are in God because we are in Jesus Christ his Son, who is the only true God; and he is eternal Life.

²¹Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts.

Amen. *Sincerely, John*

TLB_