

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church of New Brunswick, NJ
01/04/2026

By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

Enduring Beliefs of the Christian Faith

Grace and Reconciliation

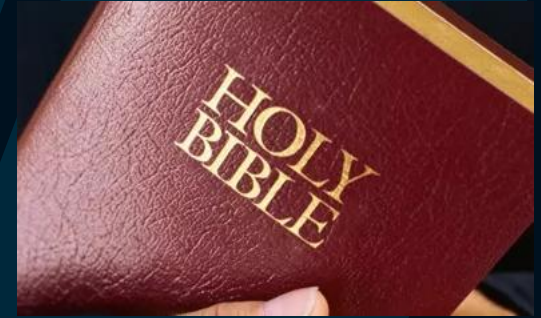
Sin and Forgiveness

1 John 1:5 – 2:6

*Anchor Text

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,



Lesson Text

Fellowship with Him
and One Another

1 JOHN 1:5 – 6 (NKJV)

⁵ This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.



Lesson Text

Fellowship with Him
and One Another

1 JOHN 1:7 (NKJV)

⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.



Commentary: Choice

- For those who received the Spirit through the '**ABC's**' of faith through the Word, we now have 2 natures
- We must CHOOSE each day which aspect of our new lives to follow.
- The more we follow either, it will be reflected in our lives

Lesson Text

Fellowship with Him
and One Another



1 JOHN 1:8 – 9 (NKJV)

⁸ If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Lesson Text

Fellowship with Him
and One Another

1 JOHN 1:10 (NKJV)

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

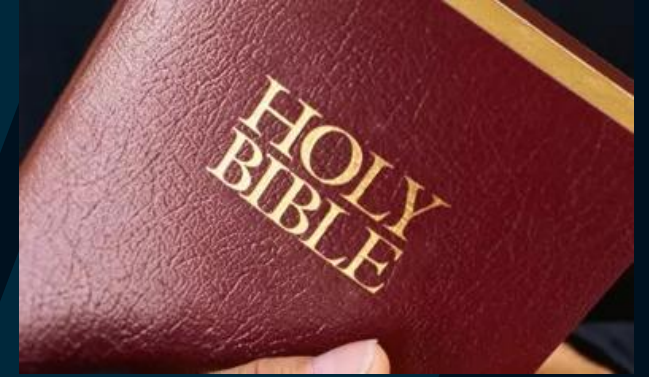


Lesson Text

The Test of Knowing Christ

1 JOHN 2:1 (NKJV)

¹ My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.



Lesson Text

The Test of Knowing Christ

1 JOHN 2:2 (NKJV)

2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.



Lesson Text

The Test of Knowing Him

1 JOHN 2:3 – 4 (NKJV)

³ And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. ⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the **truth** is not in him.



Lesson Text

The Test of Knowing Him

1 JOHN 2:5 – 6 (NKJV)

⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God [a]is perfected in Him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.



Commentary: Verse 1:10 vs 2:4

Feature	1 John 1:10	1 John 2:4
The Claim	"We have not sinned"	"I know Him [God]"
The Contradiction	Denying the universal reality of human sin	Claiming intimacy with God while ignoring His commands
The Result	We make God a liar (by contradicting His Word)	The person is a liar (actions reveal a lack of true relationship)
Key Phrase	"His word is not in us"	"The truth is not in him"

Commentary: Verse 1:10 vs 2:4

- Verse 1:10 deals with the **NATURE** of the believer whereas verse 2:4 deals with the **CONDUCT** of the believer, based on their “knowledge” of God

Commentary: Verse 1:10 vs 2:4

- We know the term “knowledge is power”, but in fact “**APPLIED** knowledge is power”
- Knowledge in and of itself does little to affect us and the world around us

Commentary: Verse 1:10 vs 2:4

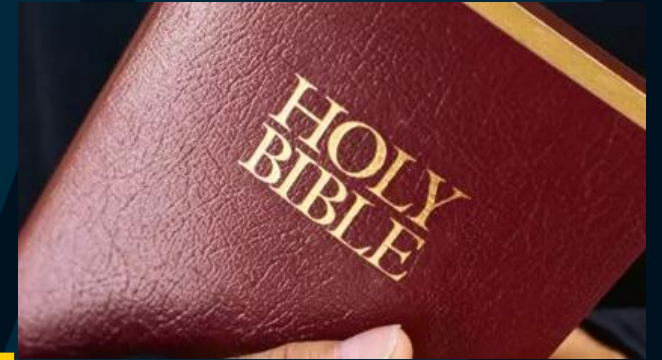
- Together, these verses establish a "test of fellowship". John argues that a healthy relationship with God requires both a humble admission of sin (1:10) and a committed effort to follow His teachings (2:4)

Commentary: The Struggle

- The Apostle Paul talks of this daily struggle of these two nature, but he is thankful to God that through Jesus Christ, he is still secure
(Romans 7:13-25)

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Scripture References



Romans 7:13-25

The daily struggle with and remedy for sin

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Church School Creed

Our Church School must grow & grow
And we must help to make it so
Every member a Christian
Every Christian a worker
Every worker trained
A worker that will not be ashamed
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

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Church School Benediction

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN