

## Knowing Our Advocate

### **1 John 2:1-6**

**Introduction:** John wanted his readers to be aware of why he was writing to them. **“These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God” (1 Jn. 5:13).**

Earlier he had discussed the bases of faith and fellowship. He moves on to a point of encouragement. He simply focuses on what we are able to do as Christians. John is very positive in his writing about dealing with sin and knowing God.

**“My little children”** is a touching statement of endearment. He wishes all the best for them as they strive to be faithful Christians.

#### **I. Jesus Our Advocate (1 John 2:1-2).**

- A.** Sin is not unavoidable.
  - 1.** Some could (and do) mistakenly get the idea that it is all right to sin.
    - a.** Take **1 John 1:8, 10** out of context.
    - b.** “Everybody does it.”
  - 2.** John positively states that it is possible not to sin—**“...so that you may not sin...if anyone sins...”**
- B.** Advocate.
  - 1.** What does this mean?
    - a.** Strong suggests “*an intercessor, a consoler.*”
    - b.** Thayer says, “*called to one’s side.*” He pleads our case, works on our behalf.
    - c.** Most often used in 1<sup>st</sup> century in reference to a lawyer.
    - d.** Used in New Testament with regard to the Holy Spirit (**Jn. 14:26; 15:26; 16:7**) and here in **1 John 2:1**.
    - e.** **see Hebrews 4:14-16.**
- C.** Propitiation.
  - 1.** This is a word that basically means a satisfactory offering to God.
  - 2.** This is accomplished:
    - a.** By His blood (**Rom. 3:25**).
    - b.** For our sins (**1 Jn. 4:10**).
  - 3.** While it was for all this does not mean that all will obey the gospel.

**“That You May Know”**

---

**II. Knowing Jesus (1 John 2:3-6).**

- A.** To know Jesus is to keep His commandments (**1 Jn. 2:3, 5**).
  - 1.** This is “experimental knowledge.” Gained by day to day experience.
  - 2. see Jn. 14:15; 15:14; 1 Jn. 5:3.**
- B.** John clearly points out the result in a failure to do this (**1 Jn. 2:4**). This is an extremely strong statement from the Apostle of Love (as John is sometimes called).
- C.** Abiding and walking (**1 Jn. 2:5-6**).
  - 1.** “*Actions speak louder than words*” comes to mind at this point.
  - 2.** A consistency that is noticeable ought to exist.
  - 3.** This is walking in the light (**1 Jn. 1:7**); walking by faith (**2 Cor. 5:7**).
  - 4.** It is abiding in the Vine [Jesus] (**Jn. 15:4-7, esp. v. 7**).

**Conclusion:** John’s words are encouraging. We can be victorious over sin through Jesus. We can walk as we should and we can abide in His teachings. Is Jesus pleading your case before the Father? Do you know Jesus? Have you obeyed His gospel? Why not do it now?