

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF JOHN.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EPISTLE AS A WHOLE.

1: 1—2:17.	CHRIST.
2: 18—29.	ANTICHRIST.
3: 1—24.	LOVE.
4: 1—6.	ANTICHRIST.
4: 7—21.	LOVE.
5: 1—21.	CHRIST.

NOTES.

1. WRITTEN BY the apostle John, as proved no less by its character than by external testimony. The similarity in tone and language to the Fourth Gospel shows both to be the work of that disciple whom Jesus loved (John 21:7).
2. WRITTEN, as generally understood, to the “circle of Asiatic churches”. But it is suggested that this First Epistle of John may be reckoned among the *Diaspora* and earlier epistles, for the following reasons:--
 - (a) The occurrences of the word *parousia* (2:28). See Matt. 24:3; 1 Thess. 2:19, &c.
 - (b) The significance of the possessive pronoun *hemeteros* (1:3; 2:2: see Notes), and
 - (c) Paul’s statement that John was one of the “pillars”, i.e. teachers of the Law, and therefore a minister of the circumcision (see Gal. 2:9).The *position* that the epistle occupies canonically among the *Diaspora* writings strengthens the argument that it also is to be reckoned among them.
3. THE CONTENTS are practical teaching in the light of the love of God. God is Life, is Light, is Truth, is Righteous, is Love, and we have fellowship with Him through the Lord Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit. “We know that He abideth in us by the spirit which He hath given us” (3:24). The apostle sets in vivid contrast the death, darkness, falsehood, hate, which are the characteristics of the devil who “sinneth from the beginning” (3:8), and those who are led by the spirit of error (4:6), with the work of the Holy Spirit in believers. But the dominant conception running throughout the epistle is that of the love which constraineth, as it constrained Paul (2 Cor. 5:14).
4. WRITTEN FROM Ephesus according to tradition, but no definite statement can be made as to either place or time of writing. The character of the contents indicates a much earlier date than is usually supposed (see Ap. 180).

Page 1870 From The Companion Bible.

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF JOHN.

1 THAT which was ^ofrom the beginning, which we have heard, which we have ^oseen with our eyes, which we ... ^olooked upon, and our hands ... ^ohandled, of the ^oWord of ^olife;

2 (And the ¹life was ^omanifested, and we have ¹seen it, and ^obear witness, and **report to** you that ^oeternal ¹life, which was with the ^oFather, and was ^omanifested **to us**;))

3 That which we have ¹seen and heard **report** we ²to you, **in order that** ye also may have ^ofellowship with us: and truly our ^ofellowship *is* with the ²Father, and with **His** ^oSon ^oJesus Christ.

4 And these things write we ²to you, ³in order that your joy may be **filled full**.

5 And **this** is the ^omessage which we have heard **from Him**, and ^odeclare ²to you, that ^oGod is ^olight, and in **Him** is ^ono darkness at all.

6 ^oIf we say that we have ³fellowship with **Him**, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the ^otruth:

7 But if we walk in the ⁵light, ^oas **He** [the Father] is in the ⁵light, we have ³fellowship **with one another**, and the blood of **Jesus His** ³Son cleanseth us from all ^osin.

8 If we say that we have **not** ⁷sin, we deceive ourselves, and the ⁶truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our ⁷sins, **He** is ^ofaithful and ^ojust **in order that He might** ^oforgive our ⁷sins, and to cleanse us from all ^ounrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not ^osinned, we make **Him** a ^oliar, and **His** ^oword is not in us.

2 My ^olittle children, these things write I **to** you, **to the end that ye may not commit sin habitually**. And if any man **commit an act of sin**, we have an ^oadvocate with the ^oFather, ^oJesus Christ the ^orighteous:

2 And **He** is the ^opropitiation for our ^osins: and not for ^oours only, but ... for *the sins of* the whole ^oworld **also**.

3 And **in this** we do ^oknow that we know **Him**, if we keep **His** commandments.

4 He that saith, "I ³know **Him**," and keepeth not **His** commandments, is a liar, and the ^otruth is not in him.

5 But whoso keepeth **His** ^oword, in him verily is the ^olove of ^oGod ^operfected: ³in **this** ³know we that we are in **Him**.

1: 1--2: 17. CONCERNING CHRIST.

1: 1-5. Cause of writing.
1: 6-10. Test of fellowship.
2: 1, 2. Cause of writing.
2: 3-6. Test of knowing God.
2: 7, 8. Cause of writing.
2: 9-11. Test of being in the Light.
2: 12-14. Cause of writing.
2: 15-17. Test of loving God.

1. 1 from the beginning. Gr. *ap'* (Ap. 104. iv) *arches*. See John 8. 44. Occ. nine times in this epistle.
seen. Ap. 133. I. 8. **have.** Omit.
looked upon. Ap. 133. I. 12.
handled. Gr. *pselaphao*. See Acts 17. 27.
Word. Ap. 121. 10. Fig. *Anabasis*. Ap. 6.
life. Ap. 170. 1. Cp. John 1. 4.
2 For = And. **manifested.** Ap. 106. I. v.
bear witness. See John 1. 7, and p. 1511.
shew = report. Gr. *apangello*. See Acts 4. 23. **unto = to.**
eternal. Ap. 151. II. B. i. "Eternal life" occ. in this epistle six times.
with. Ap. 104. xv. 3. **Father.** Ap. 98. III.
3 declare. Same as "shew", v. 2.
that = in order that. Gr. *hina*. **fellowship.** See 1 Cor. 1. 9.
Son. Ap. 108. iii.
Jesus Christ. Ap. 98. XI.
4 full = fulfilled or filled full. Ap. 125. 7. Cp. John 15. 11; 16. 24.
5 This then = And this.
message. Gr. *angelia*. Only here and 3. 11.
of = from. Ap. 104. iv, as v. 1.
declare. Gr. *anangello*. See Acts 20. 27.
God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1. **light.** Ap. 130. 1.
no ... at all. Gr. *ou oudeis*. A double negative. This is the Fig. *Pleonasm* (Ap. 6), as in v. 8.
6 If. Ap. 118. I. b.
truth. See p. 1511 and Ap. 175. 1.
7 as He. This refers to the Father. Cp. 2. 6.
one with another = with one another. Not with fellow-believers, but with the Father and the Son.
Jesus Christ. The texts read "Jesus".
sin. Ap. 128. I. ii. 1. Here is the Fig. *Metalepsis*. Ap. 6.
8 no = not (v. 6). **just.** Ap. 191. 1.
9 faithful. Ap. 150. III.
to. Gr. *hina*, as in v. 3. Lit. in order that He might forgive.
forgive. Ap. 174. 12.
unrighteousness. Ap. 128. VII. 1.
10 sinned. Ap. 128. I. i.
liar. See 5. 10. John 8. 44. **word.** Ap. 121. 10.
2. 1 little children. Ap. 108. ii. Seven times in this epistle.
 Elsewhere only in John 13. 33. Gal. 4. 19. In vv. 13, 18 a different word is used. **unto = to.**
that ye . . . sin. Note carefully the telic force of the Gr. *hina* here;—"to the end that ye may not (commit) sin (habitually)."
that. Gr. *hina*. **sin not = may not sin.**

sin. <u>Ap. 128. I. i.</u>	not. <u>Ap. 105. II.</u>	if . . . sin = should any man sin, i.e. commit an act of sin	if. <u>Ap. 118. I. b.</u>
any man. <u>Ap. 123. 3.</u>	advocate. Gr. <i>parakletos</i> . See John 14. 16. Cp. Rom. 8. 34.		with. <u>Ap. 104. xv. 3.</u>
Father. <u>Ap. 98. III.</u>	Jesus Christ. <u>Ap. 98. XI.</u>		righteous. <u>Ap. 191. 1.</u>
2 propitiation. Gr. <i>hilasmos</i> . Only here and <u>4. 10.</u> Several times in the Sept. Lev. 25. 9. Num. 5. 8, &c. Cp. Rom. 3. 25.	not. <u>Ap. 105. I.</u>	ours. Gr. <i>hemeteros</i> . Emphatic.	also. This should follow "world".
sins. <u>Ap. 128. I. ii. 1.</u>	world. <u>Ap. 129. 1.</u> Cp. John 3. 16. Rom. 5. 18, 19. 2 Cor. 5. 15.		
3 hereby = in (<u>Ap. 104. viii</u>) this.		know. <u>Ap. 132. I. ii.</u> The second "know" is in perf. tense, as in v. 4 also.	
4 truth. See 1. 6.	love. <u>Ap. 135. II. 1.</u>	God. <u>Ap. 98. I. i. 1.</u>	perfected. <u>Ap. 125. 2.</u>
5 word. <u>Ap. 121. 10.</u>			

6 He that saith he ^oabideth in **Him** ought himself also so to walk, ^oeven as **He** walked.

7 Brethren, I write **not a** ^onew commandment ¹to you, but an old commandment which ye had ^ofrom the beginning. The old commandment is the ⁵word which ye ... heard ...

8 Again, a ⁷new commandment I write ¹to you, which thing is ^otrue in **Him** and in you: because the darkness *passes away*, and the ^otrue ^olight *already* ^oshineth.

9 He that saith he is in the ⁸light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness ^oeven until ^onow.

10 He that ^oloveth his brother ⁶abideth in the ⁸light, and there is ^onone ^ooccasion of stumbling in him.

11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and ^oknoweth not whither he ^ogoeth, because that darkness ... ^oblinded his eyes.

12 I write ¹to you, ¹little children, because your ²sins ^oare forgiven you *on account of His name*.

13 I write ¹to you, fathers, because ye have ³known **Him** *That is* ⁷from the beginning. I *wrote* ¹to you, ^oyoung men, because ye have ^oovercome the ^owicked one. I write ¹to you, ^olittle children, because ye have ³known the ¹Father.

14 I *wrote* ¹to you, fathers, because ye have ³known **Him** *That is* ⁷from the beginning. I *wrote* ¹to you, ¹³young men, because ye are strong, and the ⁵word of ⁵God ⁶abideth in you, and ye have ¹³overcome the ¹³wicked one.

15 ¹⁰Love not the ²world, ^oneither the things *that are* in the ²world. If any man ¹⁰love the ²world, the ⁵love of the ¹Father is not in him.

16 For all that *is* in the ²world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the ^opride of ^olife, is not of the Father, but is of the ²world.

17 And the ²world ⁸passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the ^owill of ⁵God ⁶abideth ^ofor ever.

18 ¹³Little children, it is the *last hour* and as ye ... heard that ^oantichrist *cometh*, even now *have arisen* many ^oantichrists; *whence* we ³know that it is the *last hour*.

19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would *no doubt* have ^ocontinued with us: but *they went out*, ¹in order that they might be ^omade manifest that they were not all of us.

20 *And* ye have an ^ounction from the **Holy One**, and ye ¹¹know all things.

21 I ¹⁴have not written ¹to you because ye ¹¹know not the ⁴truth, but because ye ¹¹know it, and that no lie is of the ⁴truth.

22 Who is *the* liar *except* he that ^odenieth that Jesus *is not* the ^oChrist? He is ¹⁸antichrist, that ^odenieth the ¹Father and the ^oSon.

23 Whosoever ²²denieth the ²²Son, *he* hath not the ¹Father: [*but*] ^ohe that *confesseth* the ²²Son hath the ¹Father also.

6 **abideth.** See p. 1511.

even as. Gr. *kathos*. The expression "as He", referring to the Son, occ. six times in this epistle. See 3. 2, 3, 7, 23; 4. 17, and cp. 1. 7.

7 **no** = not, as v. 2.

new. Gr. *kainos*. See Matt. 9. 17.

from the beginning. Gr. *ap'* (Ap. 104. iv) *arches*. See 1. 1.

have. Omit.

from, &c. The texts omit.

8 **true.** Ap. 175. 1.

is past = passes away. Gr. *parago*, as v. 17.

true. Ap. 175. 2.

light. Ap. 130. 1.

now = already. Gr. *ede*.

shineth. Ap. 106. I. i.

9 **even until.** Gr. *heos*.

now. Gr. *arti*.

10 **loveth.** Ap. 135. I. 1.

occasion, &c. Gr. *skandalon*. See Rom. 9. 33.

11 **knoweth.** Ap. 132. I. i.

goeth. Cp. John 12. 35.

hath. Omit.

blinded. Gr. *tuphloo*. See 2 Cor. 4. 4.

12 **are forgiven.** Ap. 174. 12.

for, &c. =on account of (Ap. 104. v. 2) His name.

13 **young men.** Ap. 108. x.

overcome. See John 16. 33.

wicked. Ap. 128. III. 1.

write. The texts read "wrote".

little children. Here and in v. 18 the word *paidion* (Ap. 108. v) is used.

14 **have written** = wrote.

15 **neither.** Gr. *mede*.

16 **pride.** Gr. *alazoneia*. Only here and Jas. 4. 16 (boastings).

life. Ap. 170. 2.

of. Ap. 104. vii.

17 **will.** Ap. 102. 2.

for ever. Ap. 151. II. A. ii. 4. a.

2: 18-29. ANTICHRIST..

18-23. Antichrist. Definition.

24-29. Antichrist. Protection against.

2: 18-23. ANTICHRIST. DEFINITION.

18. Antichrist.

19. Rejection of the truth.

20. Unction.

21. Rejection of the lie.

22, 23. Antichrist.

18 **last time** = last hour. Cp. Acts 2. 17.

have. Omit.

antichrist. Cp. John 5. 43. 2 Thess. 2. 3-9.

shall come = cometh.

are there = have arisen.

whereby = whence.

19 **from.** Ap. 104. vii.

if. Ap. 118. 2. a.

continued. Same as "abide", v. 6.

with. Gr. *meta*. Ap. 104. xi. 1.

made manifest. Ap. 106. I. v.

20 **But** = And.

unction. Gr. *chrisma*. Only here and v. 27. For the verb *chrio* see 2 Cor. 1. 21.

22 **a** = the. Cp. John 8. 44. 2 Thess. 2. 11 (*the* lie).

but = except. Gr. *ei me*.

denieth. Gr. *arneomai*. Always "deny" save Acts 7. 35; Heb. 11. 24 (both "refused").

Jesus. Ap. 98. X.

is = is not (Ap. 105. I). A negative sometimes follows such verbs as *arneomai*. Cp. the French usage.

Christ. Ap. 98. IX.

Son. Ap. 108. iii.

23 **the same** = he.

not. Gr. *oude*.

he that, &c. This clause is added by all the texts.

acknowledgeth = confesseth, as Matt. 10. 32, &c.

24 Let that therefore ⁶abide in you, which ye ¹⁸... heard ⁷from the beginning. If that which ye ¹⁸... heard ⁷from the beginning shall **abide** in you, ye also shall ¹⁹**abide** in the ²²Son, and in the ¹Father.

25 And this is the ^opromise that **He** ... promised us, *even* ^oeternal ^olife.

26 These *things* ¹⁴**I wrote** ¹to you concerning them that **lead you astray**.

27 ²⁰**And** the ^oanointing [**the unction**] which ye ¹⁸... received **concerning Him** ⁶abideth in you, and ye need not ¹that ¹any man teach you: but as the same ^oanointing [**unction**] teacheth you **concerning** all things, and is **true**, and is **not a lie**, and even as it hath taught you, ¹⁸...⁶abide in **Him**.

28 And now, ¹little children, ⁶abide in **Him**; ¹**in order that, if He** shall ^oappear, we may have **boldness**, and not be ^oashamed **from Him in His** ^ocoming.

29 If ye ¹¹know that **He** is ^orighteous, ye ³know that every one that **practiseth** ^orighteousness is **begotten** of **Him**.

3 ^oBehold, what manner of ^olove the ^oFather hath **given to us, in order that** we should be called the **children** of ^oGod **and we are so: on account of this** the ^oworld knoweth us not, because it knew **Him** not.

2 ^oBeloved, now are we ... ¹**children** of ¹God, and it doth not yet ^oappear what we shall be: ... we ^oknow that, when **He** shall ^oappear, we shall be like **Him**; for we shall ^osee **Him even as He** is.

3 And every man that hath this hope **fixed on Him** ^opurifieth himself, ^oeven as **He** is ^opure.

4 **Every one who practiseth** ^osin **doeth lawlessness also: and** ^osin is ^othe transgression of the law.

5 And ye ²know that **He** ^owas manifested **in order that He might** ^otake away ... sins; and in **Him there is not** ⁴sin.

2: 24-29. ANTICHRIST. PROTECTION AGAINST.

- 24. The word heard : abiding in them.
- 25. His promise : eternal life.
- 26, 27-. The anointing : abiding in them.
- 27. His teaching : truth.
- 28. Confidence through abiding in Him.
- 29. His righteousness : they born of Him.

24 remain. Same as "abide", v. 6.

25 promise. Gr. *epangelia*, the only occ. in John's writings.

hath. Omit. **eternal.** Ap. 151. II. B. i.

life. Ap. 170. 1. See 1. 2.

26 seduce = lead astray, or cause to err.

27 anointing. Same as "unction", v. 20. **of** = concerning.

truth = true. Ap. 175. 1. **no lie** = not (Ap. 105. I) a lie.

ye shall. Omit. **Him.** Or, it.

28 when. The texts read "if" (Ap. 118. 1. b.)

appear. Same as "made manifest", v. 19.

confidence. Gr. *parrhesia*. See Acts 28. 31.

ashamed. Gr. *aischuno*. See 2 Cor. 10. 8. **before** = from.

Ap. 104. iv. **at** = in. Ap. 104. viii. **coming.** See Matt. 24. 3.

29 righteous. Ap. 191. 1.

doeth = practiseth. Gr. *poieo*, as 3. 7, 10.

righteousness. Ap. 191. 3.

born = begotten. A Latin MS., the Fleury Palimpsest, instead of "ashamed, &c.", reads "confounded by Him. If in His presence ye have known Him that is faithful, know that every one that doeth the truth hath been born of Him."

3: 1-24. LOVE.

- 1, 2. The Father's love to us.
- 3-15. Effect upon us.
- 16-. The Son's love to us.
- 16-24. Effect upon us.

3. 1 Behold. Ap. 133. I. 3. Plural. **love.** Ap. 135. II. 1.

Father. Ap. 98. III.

bestowed upon = given to. **that** = in order that. Gr. *hina*.

sons = children. Ap. 108. i.

God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1. All the texts add, "and we are (so)".

therefore = on account of (Ap. 104. v. 2) this.

world. Ap. 129. 1.

2 Beloved. Ap. 135. III.

not yet. Gr. *oupo*. **the.** Omit.

but. The texts omit.

know. Ap. 132. I. i.

see. Ap. 133. I. 8 (a).

as = even as. Cp. 2. 6.

3: 3-15. EFFECT UPON US.

- 3-9. Inward purity.
- 10-15. Outward manifestation.

3: 3-9. INWARD PURITY.

- 3. Purity.
- 4. Sin's character. Lawless.
- 5. Christ manifested. Reason.
- 6. Test of abiding.
- 7-. Warning against deceivers.
- 7. Righteousness.
- 8-. Sin's origin. The devil.
- 8. Christ manifested. Reason.
- 9. Test of being begotten of God.

3 in = upon (Ap. 104. ix. 2), i.e. set, or fixed on.

pure. Gr. *hagnos*. See 2 Cor. 7. 11.

i.e. practiseth. See 2. 29.

for = and. **sin.** Ap. 128. I. ii. 1.

the transgression, &c. Gr. *anomia*, as above.

(Gr. *hina*) He might. **take away** Gr. *airo*. Cp. John 1. 29. Col. 2. 14.

purifieth. Gr. *hagnizo*. See Acts 21. 24.

4 Whosoever = Every one who.

even as. See 2. 6.

committeth = doeth.

transgresseth, &c. = doeth lawlessness (Gr. *anomia*. Ap. 128. III. 4) also.

5 was manifested. Same as "appear", v. 2.

to = in order that

our. The texts omit. **is no** = there is not (Ap. 105. I).

6 ⁴*Every one who* °abideth in **Him** °sinneth not: whosoever °sinneth hath not °seen **Him**, °neither known **Him**.

7 °Little children, let *no one* °deceive [*seduce*] you: he that °doeth °righteousness is °righteous, ³even as **He** is righteous.

8 He that ⁴*practiseth* sin is of the devil; for the devil °sinneth °from the beginning. For this purpose the °Son of ¹God ⁵*appeared*, ¹*in order that* **He** might °destroy the works of the devil.

9 ⁴*Every one who* is *begotten* of God doth not ⁴*practiseth* sin; for **His** seed *abideth* in him: and he *is not able to* °sin, because he is *begotten* of ¹God.

10 In this the °children of ¹God are °manifest, and the °children of the devil: ⁴*every one who* ⁷*practiseth* not ⁷righteousness is not of ¹God, *and* he that °loveth not his brother.

11 For this is the °message that ye heard ⁸from the beginning, ¹that we should ¹⁰love one another.

12 Not as Cain, *who* was of *the devil*, and °slew his brother. And *for the sake of what* slew he him? Because his ... works were *wicked*, and his brother's ⁷righteous.

13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the ¹world hate you.

14 We know that we have °passed from death unto °life, because we ¹⁰love the brethren. He that ¹⁰loveth not ... °abideth in death.

15 ⁴*Every one who* hateth his brother is a °murderer [*manslayer*]: and ye know that *not any* °murderer hath °eternal ¹⁴life °abiding *within* him.

16 *In this we know* the ¹love of *God*, because **He** laid down **His** °life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.

17 But *whoever* hath this ¹world's *goods or living*, and °seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his °bowels [*inward affections*] of *compassion* from him, how °dwelleth the ¹love of ¹God in him?

18 My ⁷little children, let us not ¹love in °word, °neither in tongue; but in deed and in °truth.

19 And ¹⁶*in this* we know that we are of the ¹⁸truth, and shall °assure our hearts before **Him**.

20 For if our heart °condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth °all things.

21 ²Beloved, if our heart ²⁰condemn us not, *then* have we °confidence toward ¹God.

22 And whatsoever we *ask for something to be given*, we receive °of **Him**, because we °keep **His** commandments, and do those things that are °pleasing in **His** sight.

23 And this is **His** commandment, ¹That we

6 *abideth*. Gr. *meno*. See p. 1511.

sinneth. Ap. 128. I. i.

seen. Ap. 133. I. 8.

neither. Gr. *oude*.

7 *Little children*. Ap. 108. ii.

no man = no one. Gr. *medeis*.

deceive. See 2. 26 (seduce).

doeth. See 2. 29.

righteousness. Ap. 191. 3.

righteous. Ap. 191. 1. Cp. 2. 29.

8 *from the beginning*. See 1. 1 and John 8. 44.

Son of God. Ap. 98. XV.

destroy. Gr. *luo*. Cp. John 2. 19.

9 *born* = begotten.

remaineth. The same as "abideth", v. 6.

cannot = is not (Ap. 105. I) able to.

3: 10-15. OUTWARD MANIFESTATION.

10, 11. Character of the two classes.

12. The origin of Cain.

13. The world's choice.

14. Test of the two states.

15. Cain's followers.

10 *children*. Ap. 108. i. See vv. 1. 2.

manifest. Ap. 106. I. viii.

neither = and.

loveth. Ap. 135. I. 1.

11 *message*. Gr. *angelia*. Only here and 1. 5.

12 *that* = the.

wicked. Ap. 128. III. 1. See John 8. 44.

slew. Gr. *sphazo*. Only here and Rev. 5. 6, 9, 12; 6. 4, 9; 13. 3, 8; 18. 24.

wherefore = for the sake (Gr. *charin*) of what. The acc. case of *charis* (Ap. 184. I. 1) is used as a preposition.

own. Omit.

evil. Same as "wicked", above.

13 *if*. Ap. 118. 2. a.

14 *passed*. Gr. *metabaino*. Cp. John 6. 24 (same word).

from. Ap. 104. vii.

unto. Ap. 104. vi.

life. Ap. 170. 1.

his brother. The texts omit.

15 *murderer*. Gr. *anthropoktonos*, manslayer. Only here and John 8. 44.

no = not (v. 1) any.

eternal. Ap. 151. II. B. i.

16 *Hereby* = In (Ap. 104. viii) this.

perceive we = we know, as in v. 1.

life. Ap. 110. III. 1. See John 10. 15.

3: -16-24. EFFECTS UPON US.

-16-18. Love manifested to the brethren.

19-22. Proof of our state before God.

23. Commandment of God.

24. Proof of His abiding in us.

17 *whoso* = whoever.

good = goods, or living. Ap. 170. 2. Cp. Luke 15. 12, 30.

seeth. Ap. 133. I. 11.

bowels. Gr. *splanchna*. See Philem. 7, 12, 20.

from. Ap. 104. iv.

dwelleth. Same as "abide", v. 6.

18 *in, in*. No prep. Dat. case.

word. Ap. 121. 10.

neither. Gr. *mede*.

in. Gr. *en*, with texts.

truth. See 1. 6.

19 *assure*. Ap. 150. I. 2.

20 *if*. Ap. 118. 1. b.

condemn. Gr. *kataginosko*. See Gal. 2. 11 (blamed).

all things. Cp. Peter's answer, John 21. 17.

21 *confidence*. See 2. 28.

toward. Ap. 104. xv. 3.

22 *ask*. Ap. 134. I. 4.

of. Ap. 104. xii. 1, but the texts read *apo* (Ap. 104. iv).

keep. See Matt. 19. 17.

pleasing. Gr. *arestos*. See Acts 6. 2 (reason).

should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

24 And he that keepeth His commandments dwelleth in Him, and He in him. And in this we know that He abideth in us, by the spirit [the new nature] which He gave us.

4 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but test by the Word of God the spirits if they are of God: Because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

2 In this know ye THE Holy Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth ... Jesus Christ to have come in ... flesh is of God:

3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is the spirit of the Antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it cometh; and even now already is it in the world.

4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He That is in you, than he that is in the world.

5 They are of the world: on account of this speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.

6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. From this know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God.

8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

9 In this was manifested the love of God in us, because that God hath sent His only begotten Son into the world, in order that we might live through Him.

10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and hath sent His Son to be the propitiation [atonement] concerning our sins.

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

12 No one hath beheld God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is made perfect in us.

13 In this know we that we dwell in Him, and He in us, because He hath given us of His Spirit [the gifts].

14 And we have seen and do bear witness that the Father hath sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

propitiation. Gr. *hilasmos*. Only here and 2.2. Cp. Rom. 3. 25.

11 ought also = also ought.

seen = beheld. Ap. 133. I. 12.

13 Spirit. I.e. the gifts. Ap. 101. II. 4.

Father. Ap. 98. III.

dwelleth. Gr. *meno*. See p. 1511.

23 believe. Ap. 150. I. 1. ii.

Jesus Christ. Ap. 98. XI.

24 Spirit = spirit, i.e. the new nature, not the Giver Himself.

Ap. 101. II. 5.

hath given = gave.

4: -1-6. ANTICHRIST.

- | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Discrimination of spirits. |
| 2, 3. | Test of spirits. |
| 4, 5. | Discrimination of professors. |
| 6. | Test of professors. |

4. 1 Beloved. Ap. 135. III.

believe. Ap. 150. I. 1. ii.

spirit. Ap. 101. II. 11.

try = test, prove. By the Word of God. Gr. *dokimazo*. See Rom. 1. 28 and 12. 2.

whether = if. Ap. 118. 2. a.

of. Ap. 104. vii.

God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1.

false prophets. Gr. *pseudoprophtetes*. First occ. Matt. 7. 15.

into. Ap. 104. vi.

world. Ap. 129. 1.

2 Hereby. See 3. 16.

know. Ap. 132. I. ii.

Spirit. Ap. 101. II. 3.

spirit. Ap. 101. II. 11.

that. Omit.

Jesus Christ. Ap. 98. XI.

is come = to have come.

the. Omit.

3 spirit. Ap. 101. II. 12.

that Jesus ... flesh. The texts read "Jesus".

that = the.

antichrists = the Antichrist. See 2. 18.

should come = cometh.

4 little children. Ap. 108. ii.

5 therefore = on account of (Ap. 104. v. 2) this.

speak. Ap. 121. 7.

6 Hereby = From (Ap. 104. vii) this.

spirit. Ap. 101. II. 11.

of truth. Gen. of character, or relation. Ap. 17. 1, or 5.

truth. See 1. 6.

spirit. Ap. 101. II. 12. of error. Gen. of character, as above.

4: 7-21. LOVE.

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------------|
| 7, 8. | Call to love of the brethren. |
| 9. | Proof of God's love to us. |
| 10. | God's love first. |
| 11, 12. | Love perfected. |
| 13, 14. | Hereby (<i>en touto</i>) ... because. |
| 15. | God's indwelling. |
| 16. | Dwelling in God. |
| 17. | Herein (<i>en touto</i>) ... because. |
| 18. | Perfected in love. |
| 19. | God's love first. |
| 20. | Proof of our love to God. |
| 21. | Command to love the brethren. |

7 love. Ap. 135. I. 1.

love. Ap. 135. II. 1.

born = begotten.

9 manifested. Ap. 106. I. v.

toward = in. Ap. 104. viii. The sphere in which the manifestation takes place.

only begotten. See John 1. 14.

Son. Ap. 108. iii.

that = in order that. Gr. *hina*.

live. Cp. Ap. 170. 1.

10 Herein = In (Ap. 104. viii) this.

for = concerning. Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

sins. Ap. 128. I. ii. 1.

12 No man = No one. Gr. *oudeis*.

perfected = made perfect. Ap. 125. 2.

14 testify = bear witness. Gr. *martureo*. See p. 1511.

15 confess, &c. See Matt. 16. 16.

Jesus. Ap. 98. X.

16 And we have ²known and *have believed* the ⁷love that ¹God hath *in* us. God is ⁷love; and he that ¹²dwelleth in ⁷love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17 ¹⁰*In this* is *love with us* ^omade perfect, ⁹*in order that* we may have ^oboldness in the day of ^ojudgment: Because ^oas **He** is, so are we in this ¹world.

18 There is *not* fear in ⁷love; but ^operfect ⁷love casteth out fear: Because fear hath *punishment*. He that feareth is not ¹⁷made perfect in ⁷love.

19 We ⁷love ..., Because **He** first ⁷loved us.

20 ¹²*If any one* say, "I ⁷love ¹God," and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that ⁷loveth not his brother whom he hath ^oseen, how can he ⁷love God **Whom** he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we ^ofrom **Him**, ⁹that he who ⁷loveth ¹God ⁷love his brother also.

5 *Every one who* ^obelieveth that ^oJesus is the ^oChrist is *begotten* of ^oGod: and every one that ^oloveth **Him** That ^obegat loveth him also that is ^obegotten of **Him**.

2 *In* this we ^oknow that we ¹love the ^ochildren of God, when we love God, and *do* **His** commandments.

3 For this is the ^olove of God, ^othat we ^okeep **His** commandments: and **His** commandments are not *burdensome*.

4 *Because* whatsoever is ¹born of ¹God overcometh the ^oworld: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our ^ofaith.

5 Who is he that overcometh the ⁴world, *except* he that ¹believeth that ¹Jesus is the ^oSon of God?

6 This is **He** That came by ^owater and *in the blood*, *even* ^oJesus Christ; not by ^owater only, but by water and *in the blood*. And it is *THE Holy Spirit* That ^obeareth witness, because *THE Holy Spirit* is ^otruth.

7 For there are three that *bear witness* ^o~~*in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.*~~

8 ~~*And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.*~~

9 If we receive the ^owitness of ^omen, the witness of ¹God is greater: for this is the ^owitness of God which **He** hath ^otestified *concerning* **His** ⁵Son.

10 He that ^obelieveth on the ⁵Son of ¹God hath the ⁹witness in himself: he that *believeth not on* God hath made **Him** a ^oliar; because he *believeth not on* the *witness* that ¹God ^ogave of **His** ⁵Son.

11 And this is the ¹⁰witness, that God *gave* to us ^oeternal ^olife, and this life is in **His** ⁵Son.

12 He that hath the ⁵Son hath *the life*; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not *the life*.

13 These things *I wrote to* you ^othat believe on the name of the Son of

16 **believed** = have believed. Ap. 150. I. I. iii
to = in. Ap. 104. viii. Cp. v. 9.

17 **our love** = love with (Ap. 104. xi. 1) us.

made perfect. Ap. 125. 2.

boldness. Gr. *parhresia*. See 2. 28.

judgment. Ap. 177. 7.

as He is. See 2. 6.

18 **no** = not, v. -3.

perfect. Ap. 125. 1.

torment = punishment. Gr. *kolasia*. See Matt. 25. 46.

19 **Him**. The texts omit.

20 **a man** = any one. Ap. 123. 3.

seen. Ap. 133. I. 8.

21 **from**. Ap. 104. iv. Cp. 3. 11, 23. John 13. 34; 15. 12.

5: 1-21.

CHRIST.

1-5. Belief in Christ.

6-12. Witnesses to us that He has come.

13-19. Belief in Christ.

20, 21. Witnesses to us that He has come.

5. 1 **Whosoever** = Every one who.

believeth. Ap. 150. I. I. iii.

Jesus. Ap. 98. X.

Christ. Ap. 98. IX.

born = begotten.

of. Ap. 104. vii.

God. Ap. 98. I. i. 1.

loveth. Ap. 135. I. 1.

begat, begotten. Same word as "born", above.

2 **By** = In. Ap. 104. viii.

know. Ap. 132. I. ii.

children. Ap. 108. i.

keep. The texts read "do".

3 **love**. Ap. 135. II. 1.

that. Gr. *hina*. Keeping His commandments is a result of His love being shed abroad in our hearts (Rom. 5. 5). Cp. Ps. 119. 97, 119, 163, &c.

keep. See Matt. 19. 17.

grievous = burdensome. Gr. *barus*. See Acts 20. 29.

4 **For** = Because.

world. Ap. 129. 1.

faith. Ap. 150. II. 1.

5 **but** = except. Gr. *ei me*.

Son of God. Ap. 98. XV.

6 **by**. Ap. 104. v. 1.

water. Referring to His baptism, when witness was given to Him by the voice from heaven and the descent of the Spirit.

Jesus Christ. Ap. 98. XI.

blood. The texts read "in (Gr. *en*) the blood".

Spirit. Ap. 101. II. 3.

beareth witness. See 1. 2.

truth. See 1. 6.

7 **bear record** = bear witness, as in v. 6.

in heaven, &c. The texts read, "the Spirit, and the water", &c, omitting all the words from "in heaven" to "in earth" (v. 8) inclusive. The words are not found in any Gr. MS. before the sixteenth century. They were first seen in the margin of some Latin copies. Thence they have crept into the text.

8 **in**. Ap. 104. vi.

9 **if**. Ap. 118. 2. a.

witness. Gr. *marturia*. See p. 1511.

men. Ap. 123. 1.

testified. Same as "bear witness", v. 6.

of = concerning. Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

10 **believeth on**. Ap. 150. I. 1. v. (i).

in. Ap. 104. viii.

believeth. Ap. 150. I. 1. ii.

not. Ap. 105. II.

liar. Cp. 1. 10.

believeth = believeth on, as above.

record. Same as "witness", v. 9.

gave. Lit. hath witnessed.

11 **hath given** = gave. See Rom. 6. 23.

eternal. Ap. 151. II. B. i.

life. Ap. 170. 1.

12 **life** = the life (v. 11).

13 **have I written** = I wrote.

unto = to.

that believe, &c. This clause is omitted by all the texts and by the Syriac.

God; ³*in order that* ye may ^oknow that ye have ¹¹eternal ¹¹life, *even unto you that* ¹⁰believe on the name of the ⁵Son of ¹God.

14 And this is the ^oconfidence that we have *toward* Him, that, ^oif we ^oask any thing ^oaccording to His ^owill [*desire*], He heareth us:

15 And ^oif we ¹³know that He hear us, whatsoever we ¹⁴ask, we know that we have the *requests* that we *have desired* ^oof Him.

16 ¹⁴If *any one* ^osee his brother *sinning* a ^osin *which is not* ^ounto death, he shall ¹⁴ask, and He shall give him ¹¹life for them that sin not unto death. There is ...^osin ^ounto death: I do not say ³that he shall ^opray *concerning that*.

17 All ^ounrighteousness is ¹⁶sin: and there is ¹⁶... ¹⁶sin not ¹⁶unto death.

18 We ¹³know that *every one who* is ¹born of ¹God *does not continue in sin*; but ^oHe That [*The Lord*] is ¹begotten of ¹God ³keepeth *him*, and that ^owicked one ^otoucheth him not.

19 And we ¹³know that we are of ¹God, and the ⁴whole world lieth in *the wicked one*.

20 And we ¹³know that the ⁵Son of God ^ois come, and hath given us an ^ounderstanding, ³*in order that* we may ²know Him That is ^otrue, and we are in Him That is ^otrue, *even in His* ⁵Son ⁶Jesus Christ. ^oThis is the ^otrue ¹God, and ¹¹eternal ¹¹life.

21 ^oLittle children, *guard* yourselves from ^oidols.

know. Ap. 132. I. i.

and . . . may. The texts read "even unto you that".

14 confidence. See 2. 28.

in = toward. Ap. 104. xv. 3.

if. Ap. 118. I. b.

ask. Ap. 134. I. 4.

according to. Ap. 104. x. 2.

will. Ap. 102. 2.

15 if. Ap. 118. I. a.

petitions. Ap. 134. II. 5. Cp. Matt. 7. 7. John 14. 13; 15. 7.

desired = have desired. Same as "ask", v. 14.

of. Ap. 104. xii. 1.

16 any man = any one. Ap. 123. 3.

see. Ap. 133. I. 1.

sin = sinning. Ap. 128. I. i.

sin. Ap. 128. I. ii. 1.

unto. Ap. 104. xv. 3.

a. Omit.

pray. Ap. 134. I. 3.

for = concerning. Ap. 104. xiii. 1.

it = that. The sin unto death was one that might result in the brother being cut off. Cp 1 Cor. 11. 30, where many had sinned unto death—"many sleep". See also Jas. 5. 14, 16, where there is the same recognition of sickness being due to some special sins, as in 1 Cor. 11. 30, and of intercessory prayer as here. It is not a single act, but a continued habit.

17 unrighteousness. Ap. 128. VII. 1. Cp. 3. 4.

18 sinneth not. I. e. does not practise, or continue in sin. Cp. 3. 6. 9. Rom. 6. 1-12. Ap. 128. I. i.

He that, &c. This refers to the Lord. As the Jehovah of the O.T. He was the keeper of Israel (Ps. 121. 4, 5, &c). See also John 17. 12. 2 Thess. 3. 3. Rev. 3. 10.

himself. Most texts read "him".

wicked one. Ap. 128. III. 1. Cp. 2. 13, 14; 3. 12.

toucheth. Gr. *haptomai*. In John's writings only here and in John 20. 17. Thirty-one times in the three other Gospels, generally in connection with the Lord's miracles. Elsewhere, 1 Cor. 7. 1. 2 Cor. 6. 17. Col. 2. 21.

19 wickedness = the wicked one, as v. 18. He is the prince of this world (John 14. 30, &c), and the god of this age (2 Cor. 4. 4).

20 is come. Not the word used in 4. 2, 3; 5. 6 (*erchomai*), but *heko*, to be present. Cp. John 8. 42. Heb. 10. 7, 9, 37. In the last ref. the two verbs are seen: "shall come" (*erchomai*); "will come" (*heko*).

(Luke 1. 51), and "understanding" here, Eph. 1. 18; 4. 18.

This, &c. Also referring to the Father, the source of life (John 5. 26), which life was manifested in His Son (1. 2), and is given to us through, and in, Him (vv. 11, 12 above, and Rom. 6. 23).

21 Little children. Ap. 108. ii.

keep = guard, as Jude 24.

from. Ap. 104. iv.

idols. As in

1 Cor. 8. 4. An idol may not be a material one, but may consist in whatever a man looks to for help, apart from the Living God. See Eph. 5. 6. Col. 3, 5.

Amen. The texts omit.