

Walking and Claiming

Sermon 3 in the 1 John Series

1 John 1:5-2:2

I. Key Words in Verse 5

A. Message -- not the usual word for “the gospel”.

B. Light and Darkness.

Often – light and darkness do not mean literal light and darkness.

Psalms 27:1 -- The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; `Whom shall I fear?

Isaiah 60:3 -- And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising. (ESV)

Micah 7:8 -- Do not rejoice over me, my enemy; When I fall, I will arise;
When I sit in darkness, The LORD *will be* a light to me.

Isaiah 9:2 -- The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light;
Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.

John 8:12 -- Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

C. God is Light

God is not “light” in His essence.
Light in how He manifests Himself.

II. Three Conditional Sentences 1:6-10

A. Lying to Others 1:6-7

1. If we say... v. 6

2. If we do v. 7

a. We have fellowship with one another.

b. We have cleansing from sin by the blood of Christ.

The cleansing is on-going while we walk in this world.

John 3:18-21

B. Lying to Ourselves 1:8-9

1. If we say... v. 8
2. If we do... v. 9

Exodus 34:6-7a-- ...The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,⁷ keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin,

C. Calling God a Liar 1:10

“Lie to others, then lie to yourself, and soon you will be calling God a liar”.

III. More than an Advocate 2:1-2

A. He is our Advocate 2:1

Christians still sin – but they have an advocate (parakletos).

This word occurs 5 times – the other 4 in John’s gospel in chapters 14, 15 and 16 referring to the Holy Spirit – in Christ’s Upper Room discourse.

B. He is our Atoning Sacrifice (propitiation) 2:2

² And He is the propitiation for our sins [the atoning sacrifice that holds back the wrath of God that would otherwise be directed at us because of our sinful nature ; and not for ours alone, but also for [the sins of all believers throughout] the whole world. (Amplified Bible)