# SERMON NOTES

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Our Advocate

**Ron Moore** 



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#### Review:

- John is in his 70's or 80's.
- He is the last living apostle.
- He is writing from Ephesus to the surrounding churches.

#### The WHY? Five reasons for 1 John:

- 1. To encourage true Christian belonging (1 John 1:3).
- 2. To help believers experience true joy (1 John 1:4).
- 3. To help believers avoid falling into patterns of sin (1 John 2:1).
- 4. To guard believers from false teaching (1 John 2:26).
- 5. To allow believers to know with certainty that they are children of God...forever! (1 John 5:13).

#### 1 John 5:13

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

- Walking in the light: A life pattern of obedience
- Cleansed: Once and for all by the work of Jesus
- Confession: Acknowledgement of sin

1 John 1:7-10

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

John 14:16

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

Advocate: A person who willingly speaks on an accused person's behalf.

Propitiation: To turn away anger, to appease.

All of God's attributes continually work together in perfect harmony.

The Wrath of God: Experienced or Appeased

1 John 2:2

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

1 Thessalonians 1:10

Jesus . . . delivers us from the wrath to come.

### Zephaniah 1:15-16

A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness....

- Walking in the light: A life pattern of obedience
- Cleansed: Once and for all by the work of Jesus
- Confession: Acknowledgement of sin
- Obedience: Walking as Jesus walked

#### 1 John 2:3-4

And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,

In the Old Testament there are three "strands" of law:

- Civil Law—the rules of community in Israel (borrow an ox, tool, boundaries, crimes)
- Religious Law—sacrificial system—high priests and the animal substitutes.
- Moral Law—summarized in the Ten Commandments.

Jesus said that he did not come to do away with the law but fulfill it.

- Civil Law—teaching of how we do Christian community together
- Religious Law—fulfilled by the one time of all time sacrifice
- Moral Law—repeated by Jesus throughout his teaching. Every commandment is repeated except "remember the Sabbath" because Jesus is our Sabbath rest.

## 1 John 2:5-6

but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.