



19 JULY 2026 AM

1 John 1:5-10

TRIBE-2

= a close-knit community with shared identity

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:5

INTRODUCTION

A DIFFERENT THOUGHT **verses 5-10**

Colossians 3:5-17

- let's briefly consider a frustrating passage of scripture
frustrating not because it is difficult to *understand*
frustrating because it is difficult to *utilize*
put your body to death?
put off anger, malice, wrath, etc..?
don't lie, be kind, forgive one another?
and oh yeah, be THANKFUL!
- it would be nice if we could just decide to live the deeper Christian life and then go out and do it without any mistakes ever again

Paul wrote his portion of the New Testament from the perspective of **LAW**

he had trained under Gamaliel and was headed to membership in the Sanhedrin before he got saved

Romans 7:7

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

- Peter, on the other hand, wrote from an **EXPERIENTIAL** perspective

having denied Jesus and failed miserably to live up to his own boasting, Peter understood mercy

1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...

- John, as we mentioned last week, approaches the Christian life from the perspective of **TRUTH**

remember, John is almost 100 years old and he does not have the time or the inclination to debate

1 John 1:5

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

NOTE: none of these men are exclusive in their perspective, and none of them are wrong for their approach

1. WHAT IS DECLARED TO US **verse 5**

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

THE MESSAGE

God is light

most people prefer *God is love* **4:8**

the study of light can involve many different aspects: *particles and waves, the speed of light, and the invariableness of light*, etc.

Genesis 3:14-15

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

but John has in mind a much more profound truth, although it is *theological*, not *scientific*:

EVERYTHING IS EXPOSED BY THE HOLINESS OF GOD

John 1:9

That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

John 3:19

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

1 Timothy 6:16

Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honor and power everlasting.

THE MEANING

In him is no darkness...at all

this is a confusing statement...we are not accustomed to that sort of light

we live in a world of shadows and shades

there are as many as 500 shades of white

James 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Psalms 36:9

For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

1 Peter 2:9

...that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

the point John is making for us is that nothing can be hidden from God...nothing subtle can lurk in the shadows

Proverbs 15:3

The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

NOTE: all the things you don't know about someone...

2. WHAT IS DETERMINED BY US **verses 6-10**

in this passage, John used the phrase 'if we...' five times and there is a pattern: *negative* thought, *positive* thought, *negative* thought, *positive* thought, *negative* thought...

WE CAN COVER OUR SINS *the negative*

verse 6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

we can *claim* to have fellowship with God,
but our actions will eventually expose us

thus, we **LIE TO OTHERS**

Ephesians 5:8, 11

For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light...and have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

verse 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

there are those today who believe in a state of *sinless perfection*...that as believers, they can attain a higher level and leave their sin nature behind

I think John is simply referring to those who refuse to admit to themselves that they are capable of really sinning

they might slip up, or make a boo-boo,
but it isn't really *sin*

here, we **LIE TO OURSELVES**

NOTE: consider King David's sin with Bathsheba...
over a year of lying and the murder of Uriah, etc.

verse 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

when we are confronted by our sin and refuse to see it as sin, we deny the Word of God and refuse to believe what it says about us

we make ourselves the exception to the rule

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 7:18

For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

at this point, we **LIE ABOUT GOD**

WE CAN CONFESS OUR SINS *the positive*

verse 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

if we choose to walk in the light...have our daily lifestyle structured according to God's Word...we will be in right fellowship with God

one with another... with God, with Christ,
and with fellow believers

how does blood cleanse sin? the same way water quenches thirst...I don't know, but I know it works

Hebrews 9:22

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Acts 20:28 ...to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

verse 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

our sins... this refers to particular sins we commit on a daily basis

confess = to see the same way

sinning is not a matter of **IF**...but **WHEN**

Proverbs 28:13

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

Psalms 32:3-4

When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me:

God is **FAITHFUL**...to keep His promises

2 Thessalonians 3:3

But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.

God is **JUST**...in keeping the demands of His Law

Romans 8:3-4

For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

there is not one person today who doesn't need cleansing from their sin

for the believer, it is a matter of **restoration**

for the lost, it is a matter of **redemption**