



26 JULY 2026 AM

1 John 2:1-2

TRIBE-3

= a close-knit community with shared identity

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1-2

INTRODUCTION

A DIMINUTIVE TENET 2:1-2

- this series is titled: **TRIBE**

it carries the idea of *fellowship*...walking with God and having a deeper relationship with Him

NOTE: people around town that I know and with whom I am acquainted...Walmart, waitresses, etc.

- we closed last week's message knowing that we can confess our sins and be cleansed from them

1 John 1:9

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

- this morning, John tells us there is an even better option for the Christian life...don't sin at all
- there is a reason a majority of Christians never understand, much less achieve, this deeper walk with the Lord:

it is *lonely* work

1 John 1:7

sin is ugly and offensive

it is *demanding* work

1 John 1:8

being clean isolates

- in our text, John makes an unusual statement:

My little children...sin not.

HOW DO YOU NOT SIN?

Ecclesiastes 7:20

For there is not a just man upon earth,
that doeth good, and sinneth not.

Romans 3:10

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

James 1:14

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his
own lust, and enticed.

in light of **chapter one**, John is not teaching us to
seek *sinless perfection*...that is impossible

he is saying we don't have to sin

NOTE: think of some obscure activity that does not
occur to you to participate in

not interested...don't know how...don't have time

1. CONSIDER **verse 1a**

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not...

MINI CHRISTIANS

John used the term *little children* **9x** in this letter

2:1, 12-13, 18, 28 (3:7, 18) 4:4 (5:21)

NOTE: *Ephesians* was written to the body of Christ; John wrote this letter to the family of God

he is writing a family letter, so we must consider everything in that light

the term refers to small kids who are still under the authority of their parents

as a diminutive term, it can be translated as *littles, kiddoes, darlings, or ankle-biters*

John understood that as small children we must be *reminded* about sin, *refocused* on priorities, and *refreshed* on what we know

‘How many times do I have to tell you no?’

Matthew 18:3

And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

MESSAGE REMINDER

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.

THIS is the message...and we must constantly be reminded of it

John 3:19 men love darkness...

NOTE: Spurgeon walking across the street and stopped to pray...a ‘shadow’ came between him and His Savior

it is because of this fact of childish immaturity that Paul always referred to the Christian life as continuous actions:

pray without ceasing 1 Thessalonians 5:17

I keep under my body 1 Corinthians 9:27

always abounding... 1 Corinthians 15:58

NOTE: article, *Five Brutally Honest Things About Converting From Atheism To Christianity*

MISS THE MARK

every Christian has a general understanding of what is right and wrong

even non-Christians know this

Romans 2:14

...the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law...

we tend to ignore that understanding when it suits our situation

the word used here is *hamartia* and it means 'to miss the mark'

God is light and in him is no darkness at all

THAT'S our mark

sin is anything that is not light

John 8:12

...I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness,

John 12:46

I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

2. COMPREHEND **verses 1b-2**

And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

PROPTIATION

= to turn away wrath by making an offering

Romans 3:25

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

NOTE: in the Old Testament, this was the Mercy Seat, where the blood was applied

because God is **LIGHT** and hates sin, He will not deal with us in our sinful state

thus, Christ died to pay the penalty for all of our sins

Isaiah 61:10

...my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

Luke 15:22 the prodigal son

But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

the danger for Christians is to neglect the knowledge of the high price that was paid for our salvation

1 Peter 2:24

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

and notice the last part of **verse 2**: but also for the sins of the whole world

will the entire world be saved? NO

but Christ willingly died for those He knew would never receive Him as Savior

PARAKLETOS

= to call along side to help

this is the name for the Holy Spirit

John 14:16

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

another = of the same kind

therefore, the Holy Spirit is our advocate *on the earth*....Jesus is our advocate *in Heaven*

cf **Zechariah 3:1-7** Joshua the High Priest

Hebrews 7:25

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Romans 8:34

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

3. CONTINUE

THE CONVICTION

all this being true, why would we want to continue to live in sin?

Romans 6:1

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

as a believer, what lifestyle will you choose?

a golf lifestyle

soccer moms

organizing guru

will you be continually convicted of your sin and choose to live in the light?

THE CHOICE

we can cover our sins

we can *confess* our sins

we can *conquer* our sins

Romans 6:11-13

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.