

No copyright materials are used in this text  
The summary and interpretation of the specific chapter and  
verses are from the Bible, they are religious text that is in the  
public domain.

Free to Copy and Distribute: Spread the Word!

(Peter Lok) 駱沅祺,  
[lokpeter@outlook.com](mailto:lokpeter@outlook.com)

## 1 John

The book of 1 John is one of the letters of the New Testament written by the apostle John. It is believed to have been written in the late first century and is addressed to a community of believers, likely in Ephesus.

The book of 1 John is primarily concerned with the themes of love, obedience, and the importance of right belief. John emphasizes that true love for God is demonstrated through obedience to His commands, and that a life of sin is incompatible with a life lived in the light of God's truth.

John also stresses the importance of right belief, warning his readers about false teachers who seek to lead them astray. He encourages them to remain steadfast in their faith and to continue to trust in the message that they have heard from the beginning.

Throughout the book, John offers practical advice on how to live as a follower of Christ, including the importance of loving one another, avoiding the love of the world, and standing firm against the influence of false teachers.

Overall, the book of 1 John offers a message of encouragement and hope to believers, reminding them of the importance of living in obedience to God's truth and the power of God's love to transform their lives.

Here's a brief summary of each chapter of the book of 1 John:

Chapter 1: John introduces himself as an eyewitness to the life of Jesus and emphasizes the importance of walking in the light of God's truth. He also acknowledges the reality of sin but reminds his readers of the power of God's forgiveness.

Chapter 2: John warns his readers about false teachers who deny the reality of sin and the importance of obeying God's commands. He emphasizes the importance of loving one another and reminds them that they have an advocate with the Father in Jesus Christ.

Chapter 3: John encourages his readers to continue living in obedience to God's commands and to love one another. He contrasts the children of God with the children of the devil, emphasizing the importance of living a righteous life.

Chapter 4: John reminds his readers that God is love and encourages them to love one another. He also warns them to test the spirits to discern whether they come from God or from false prophets.

Chapter 5: John emphasizes the importance of believing in Jesus as the Son of God and the source of eternal life. He also encourages his readers to pray for one another and to live in accordance with God's commands.

Overall, the book of 1 John emphasizes the importance of living a life of obedience to God's truth, loving one another, and remaining steadfast in faith amidst the challenges of the world.

Here is a full description of chapter 1 of the book of 1 John:

Chapter 1 of 1 John begins with the apostle John introducing himself as an eyewitness to the life of Jesus Christ, whom he refers to as "the Word of life." John then goes on to emphasize the importance of walking in the light of God's truth, which he says brings fellowship with God and with one another.

John acknowledges the reality of sin, but he also reminds his readers of the power of God's forgiveness through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. He says that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

John then goes on to emphasize the importance of being truthful in our words and actions, saying that if we claim to have fellowship with God while walking in darkness, we are lying to ourselves and to others. On the other hand, if we walk in the light of God's truth, the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin.

John ends the chapter by warning his readers against claiming to be without sin, saying that if we do so, we are deceiving ourselves and calling God a liar. Instead, he encourages his readers to confess their sins and to trust in God's mercy and forgiveness.

Overall, chapter 1 of 1 John emphasizes the importance of walking in the light of God's truth, confessing our sins, and trusting in God's forgiveness through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. It also warns against claiming to be without sin and encourages honesty and truthfulness in our words and actions.

Here are some important verses from 1 John chapter 1:

1. Verse 5: "This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the purity and holiness of God. It also suggests that followers of God should strive to live in the light and avoid darkness (sin).

Location: 1 John 1:5

2. Verse 8: "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."

Explanation: This verse acknowledges that all humans are sinners and cannot claim to be without sin. It emphasizes the importance of humility and honesty about one's own flaws and shortcomings.

Location: 1 John 1:8

3. Verse 9: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the importance of confessing one's sins to God and seeking forgiveness. It suggests that God is merciful and will purify us from our unrighteousness if we repent.

Location: 1 John 1:9

4. Verse 10: "If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us."

Explanation: This verse reiterates the idea that all humans are sinners and cannot claim to be without sin. It suggests that denying our own sinfulness is a form of dishonesty and goes against the teachings of God.

Location: 1 John 1:10

Chapter 2 of 1 John begins with the apostle John addressing his readers as "my dear children" and urging them not to sin, but if anyone does sin, they have an advocate with the Father in Jesus Christ. John goes on to say that those who claim to know God must also obey His commands, and anyone who claims to know Him but does not obey His commands is a liar.

John then warns his readers about false teachers, whom he calls "antichrists," who deny that Jesus is the Christ and try to lead people astray from the truth. He says that these false teachers were present in his own time and would continue to be present in the future.

Next, John emphasizes the importance of loving one another, saying that anyone who claims to be in the light but hates their brother or sister is still in darkness. He reminds his readers that Jesus Himself was the ultimate example of love, laying down His life for us. John then addresses different stages of spiritual maturity, saying that he is writing to "little children," "young men," and "fathers" in the faith. He encourages them to continue in their faith and to overcome the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil. Finally, John warns his readers against the love of the world, which he says is passing away. He says that those who love the world and its pleasures do not have the love of the Father in them.

Overall, chapter 2 of 1 John emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commands, love for one another, and the dangers of false teachers and the love of the world. John encourages his readers to continue growing in their faith and to resist the temptations of the world and the devil.

! Here are some important verses from 1 John chapter 2:

1. Verse 1: "My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes that believers should strive to avoid sin, but acknowledges that we may still sin. It also points to Jesus Christ as our advocate and mediator with God, who intercedes on our behalf.

Location: 1 John 2:1

2. Verse 6: "Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did."

Explanation: This verse suggests that followers of Jesus should strive to emulate his example and live as he did, with love, humility, and obedience to God.

Location: 1 John 2:6

3. Verse 15: "Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them."

Explanation: This verse warns against becoming too attached to worldly things or values, which can distract us from our love and devotion to God.

Location: 1 John 2:15

4. Verse 17: "The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever."

Explanation: This verse contrasts the temporary and fleeting nature of worldly things with the eternal and lasting nature of God's will. It emphasizes the importance of prioritizing God's will over worldly desires.

Location: 1 John 2:17

Chapter 3 of 1 John begins with the apostle John marveling at the love of God that has been lavished upon His children, who are now called His own. He reminds his readers that although they do not yet fully understand what they will become, they know that they will be like Christ when He appears.

John then goes on to emphasize the importance of righteous living, saying that everyone who has this hope in Christ should purify themselves, just as Christ is pure. He also warns against lawlessness, saying that those who sin are lawless, and that Christ appeared to take away our sins.

Next, John emphasizes the importance of brotherly love, saying that those who love their brothers and sisters in Christ have passed from death to life. He says that love is the evidence that someone is a child of God, and that those who do not love do not know God.

John then contrasts the love of God with the love of the world, saying that those who love the world do not have the love of the Father in them. He warns against the desires of the flesh, the eyes, and the pride of life, saying that they are not from the Father but from the world.

Finally, John encourages his readers to have confidence in their relationship with God, saying that if our hearts do not condemn us, we can approach God with boldness and ask for whatever we need. He says that the greatest commandment is to believe in Jesus Christ and to love one another.

Overall, chapter 3 of 1 John emphasizes the importance of righteous living, brotherly love, and confidence in our relationship with God. John encourages his readers to purify themselves and to resist the temptations of the world, and to trust in God's love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

Here are some important verses from 1 John chapter 3:

1. Verse 1: "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the great love that God has for us as his children, and the privilege we have in being part of his family.

Location: 1 John 3:1

2. Verse 16: "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters."

Explanation: This verse defines love as sacrificial and selfless, using the example of Jesus' death on the cross. It also suggests that we should be willing to make sacrifices for our fellow believers.

Location: 1 John 3:16

3. Verse 18: "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the importance of demonstrating our love for others through our actions, rather than just using empty words.

Location: 1 John 3:18

4. Verse 24: "The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commands as a sign of our relationship with him. It also suggests that the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives is evidence of our connection to God.

Location: 1 John 3:24

Chapter 4 of 1 John begins with the apostle John warning his readers to test the spirits, to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. He says that those who confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh are from God, and those who do not are not from God.

John then emphasizes the importance of love, saying that love comes from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. He says that God showed His love for us by sending His Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and that we should love one another in the same way.

Next, John reminds his readers that no one has seen God, but if we love one another, God lives in us, and His love is made complete in us. He says that perfect love drives out fear, and that those who fear have not been made perfect in love.

John then emphasizes the importance of confessing that Jesus is the Son of God, saying that those who acknowledge this have God living in them, and those who do not have no life in them. He also warns against false prophets, saying that anyone who does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God.

Finally, John says that God is love, and whoever lives in love lives in God, and God lives in them. He emphasizes that loving others is a sign that we know God, and that those who do not love do not know God.

Overall, chapter 4 of 1 John emphasizes the importance of discerning false prophets, loving one another, and confessing that Jesus is the Son of God. John emphasizes that love comes from God and that loving others is evidence that we know God. He warns against fear and false prophets and reminds his readers that God is love.

Here are some important verses from 1 John chapter 4:

1. Verse 1: "Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

Explanation: This verse warns against blindly accepting every teaching or message, and encourages believers to discern whether a message is from God or not.

Location: 1 John 4:1

2. Verse 7: "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the importance of love and highlights it as a key trait of those who belong to God.

Location: 1 John 4:7

3. Verse 10: "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

Explanation: This verse defines love as being rooted in God's actions toward us, specifically his sending of Jesus to pay the penalty for our sins.

Location: 1 John 4:10

4. Verse 19: "We love because he first loved us."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the idea that our ability to love others is rooted in God's love for us.

Location: 1 John 4:19

Chapter 5 of 1 John begins with the apostle John emphasizing the importance of faith in Jesus Christ, saying that everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God. He says that those who love God will also love His children, and that obeying God's commands is a sign of love.

John then says that those who are born of God overcome the world, and that the victory that overcomes the world is our faith in Jesus Christ. He says that Jesus came by water and blood, and that the Spirit testifies to this truth. He also says that those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony of God in them.

Next, John emphasizes the importance of prayer, saying that if we ask anything according to God's will, He hears us. He says that if we know that someone is sinning, we should pray for them, and that if anyone sees their brother or sister committing a sin that does not lead to death, they should pray for them, and God will give them life.

John then says that those who are born of God do not continue to sin, but those who are born of the devil continue to sin. He says that those who are born of God are protected by Him, and that the evil one cannot harm them.

Finally, John emphasizes that those who believe in Jesus Christ have eternal life, and that those who do not have the Son of God do not have life. He says that he has written these things so that those who believe in the Son of God may know that they have eternal life.

Overall, chapter 5 of 1 John emphasizes the importance of faith in Jesus Christ, obedience to God's commands, and prayer. John reminds his readers that those who are born of God overcome the world and that they are protected by Him. He emphasizes that eternal life is found only in Jesus Christ and that he has written these things so that his readers may have assurance of their salvation.

Here are some important verses from 1 John chapter 5:

1. Verse 1: "Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the connection between belief in Jesus as the Messiah and being born of God, and also highlights the importance of loving other believers as part of God's family.

Location: 1 John 5:1

2. Verse 3: "In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome."

Explanation: This verse emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commands as a sign of our love for him, and suggests that following his commands should not feel like a heavy burden.

Location: 1 John 5:3

3. Verse 11-12: "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life."

Explanation: These verses emphasize the centrality of Jesus Christ in our salvation, and the importance of having a personal relationship with him in order to receive eternal life.

Location: 1 John 5:11-12

4. Verse 21: "Dear children, keep yourselves from idols."

Explanation: This verse serves as a warning against putting anything or anyone above God in our lives, and emphasizes the importance of maintaining a pure and focused devotion to him.

Location: 1 John 5:21

Notes:

There are certain theological and philosophical questions related to the book of 1 John that have been debated by scholars and theologians for centuries. These include:

1. The nature of sin and whether it is possible for believers to attain sinless perfection. The book of 1 John stresses the importance of living a righteous life and avoiding sin, but also acknowledges that believers are not entirely free from sin (1 John 1:8). Some interpret this to mean that sin is an unavoidable aspect of the human condition, while others argue that believers can attain sinless perfection through the power of the Holy Spirit.
2. The relationship between faith and works. The book of 1 John emphasizes the importance of both faith and works, but some interpret this to mean that salvation is earned through good works, while others argue that good works are simply a natural outgrowth of true faith.
3. The nature of the Trinity and the relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The book of 1 John contains several passages that refer to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but the precise nature of their relationship is a subject of ongoing debate among Christians.
4. The relationship between love and obedience. The book of 1 John emphasizes the importance of both loving God and obeying his commandments, but the exact relationship between these two concepts is a subject of debate.

These are just a few examples of the difficult questions that have been raised in relation to the book of 1 John. While there may not be definitive answers to these questions, they provide an opportunity for thoughtful reflection and discussion among Christians.