

# The Christian and Fellowship with God

1 John 1:1 – 2:2

## A. The theme of 1 John – Jesus – the grounds for FELLOWSHIP. 1:1-4

1. What was from the beginning? 1:1
2. To whom does “we” in 1:1-2 refer?
3. What is the significance of all the verbs in 1:1-2?
4. Why did the writers wish to announce what they had heard and seen to their readers? <sup>1</sup>  
1:3
5. What was the writers’ ultimate source of fellowship? 1:3
6. How do you define “fellowship”, by the way?
7. What benefit did the writers receive from writing this letter? 1:4

## B. Dealing with Sin in the Family of God in Order to Restore Fellowship. 1:5 - 2:2

1. What is true about God and light and darkness? 1:5
2. What does this MEAN?

### 3. Three False Claims to Fellowship. 1:6-10

#### a. False Claim #1: “Disobedience Does Not Destroy Fellowship with God!” 1:6-7

- 1) What is the hypothetical claim? 1:6
- 2) What is the unholy lifestyle?
- 3) What is the deceitful reality?
- 4) The purifying alternative. 1:7
  - a) What is the desirable alternative?

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<sup>1</sup> 1:3 - so that you too may have fellowship with us: “Fellowship” is the noun *koinōnia* (2842). It means “sharing something in common.” The writer wants to share Jesus in common with his readers.

- b) What is the first beneficial result?
- c) What is the second beneficial result?

**b. False Claim #2: “I Don’t Have a Sin Nature!” 1:8-9**

- 1) What is the self-deceptive claim? 1:8
- 2) If we make this claim, there are two things that are true about us:
  - a) We are \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves.
  - b) What does not reside within us?
- 3) The purifying cure. 1:9
  - a) What is our responsibility?
  - b) If we comply, what does God obligate Himself to do with our sins?
  - c) If we comply, what does God obligate Himself to do with our unrighteousness?

**c. False Claim #3: “I Don’t Disobey!” 1:10**

- 1) What is the hypothetical claim?
- 2) What is the blasphemous result?
- 3) What could be said about God’s word in that case?

**4. Having a great lawyer assures legal forgiveness. 2:1-2**

- a. Why is the Apostle John writing this letter? 2:1
- b. If a Christian does sin, what do we have before the Father? <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> 2:1 - we have an Advocate with the Father: Advocate translates the Greek word *paraklêtos* (3875), which means, “someone who is called to one’s aid.” It is used 5 times in the NT, all in the writings of John. John uses it four times in his gospel to refer to the Holy Spirit – John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:17. In each case the NASB translates it, “Helper.” (The word “Coach” would probably be even more appropriate.) John uses it once here in 1 John 2:1 to refer to Jesus Christ as the believer’s attorney for the defense. Jesus is the world’s greatest and most generous defense attorney. He voluntarily died to pay for the sins of all defendants in the world, even those who don’t trust Him and don’t want Him as their lawyer!

- c. What is his name and title, and why is he qualified?
- d. What function does he serve in regard to our sins? 2:2
- e. For whose sins did he die? <sup>3</sup>

### **C. Application**

1. We Christians share Jesus, the Messiah in common with each other.
2. Faith in Jesus is what gives a fellowship (a common bond) with God and other Christians.
3. Sin always damages our fellowship (commonality) with God.
4. We must confess our sins to God to have fellowship with Him.
5. With Jesus as our Lawyer, we ALWAYS have legal forgiveness from God!

### **The Christian and Fellowship With God**

A Bible Study based on 1 John 1:1-2:2

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<sup>3</sup> 2:2 - those of the whole world: There are some who insist that Jesus Christ died only for the sins of those who believe in Him. This doctrine clearly is untrue – Jesus died for the sins of the whole world!