

that was of the water and by the water, by the worde of God.

6 Wherefore the world that then was, perished, ouerflowed with the water.

7 But the heauens & earth, which are now, are kept by the same worde in store, and reserued vnto fyre against the day of iudgement; and of the destruction of vngodlie men.

8 Derely beloued, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord, * as a thousand yerres, & a thousand yere, as one day.

9 The Lord is not slacke concerning his promes (as some men count slackenes) but is pacient towarde vs, and * wolde haue no man to perish, but wolde all men to come to repentance.

10 * But the day of the Lord wil come as a thief in the night, in the which the heauens shal passe away with a noyce, and the elements shal melt with heate, and the earth with the workes, that are therein, shal be burnt vp.

11 Seing therefore that all these things must be dissolued, what maner persones ought ye to be in holie conuersation and godlines,

12 Loking for, and hastning vnto the com-

ming of the day of God, by the which the heauens being on fyre, shal be dissolued, & the elements shal melt with heate.

13 But we loke for * new heauens, and a new earth, according to his promes, wherein dwelleth righteousnes.

14 Wherefore, beloued, seing that ye loke for suche things, be diligent that ye may be founde of him in peace, without spotte and blameles.

15 * And suppose that the long suffering of our Lord is saluation, euen as our beloued brother Paul according to the wisdome giuen vnto him wrote to you,

16 As one, that in all his Epistles speaketh of these things: amog the which some things are hard to be vnderstand, which they that are vnlearned and vnstable, peruert, as they do also other Scriptures vnto their owne destruction.

17 Ye therefore beloued, seing ye knowe these things before, beware, lest ye be also plucked away with the error of the wicked, and fall from your owne stedfastnes.

18 But growe in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Sauour Iesus Christ: to him be glorie bothe now and for euer more. Amen.

e As touching
y beautie ther-
of, & things
which were
therein, except
them w were
in the arke.

Psal. 90. 4.

Ex. 33. 32.
1 Tim. 2. 4.
d He speaketh
not here of the
secret & eter-
nal counsell of
God, whereby
he cleareth
whome it plea-
seth him, but
of the preach-
ing of the
Gospel where-
by all are cal-
led and bidde
to the banquet.
Mat. 24. 44.
1. thes. 5. 2.
paul. 3. 3.
e 16. 15.

e In quiet ebi-
science.

Rom. 2. 4.

f Albech his
epistles were
writ to pec-
liar Chur-
ches, yet they
containe a ge-
neral doctrine
appertaining
to all men
g As no man
condemneth
the brightnes
of the sunne be-
cause his eye
is not able to
sustaine the
clearnes ther-
of: so the hard-
nes we can not
some time com-
pas or perfec-
ly vnderstande
in the Scrip-
tures, ought not
to take away
from vs the
vse of Scrip-
tures.
16. waste.

THE FIRST EPI- stle general of Iohn.

THE ARGUMENT.

After that S. Iohn had sufficiently declared, how that our whole saluation doeth consist onely in Christ, lest that any man shoulde thereby take a boldenes to sinne, he sheweth that no man can beleue in Christ, vnles he doeth endeuour him self to kepe his commandements, which thing being done, he exhorteth them to beware of false prophetes, whome he calleth Antichrists, and to trye the spirits. Laste of all he doeth earnestly exhorthe them vnto brotherlie loue, and to beware of deceiiners.

Iohn 8. 12.

f The frutes of
our faith must
declare whe-
ther we be ioy-
ned in God
or no: for God
being y verie
puriue & light
will not haue
fellowship
with them w
lie in sinne and
darkenes.
g In an euil
conscience, &
without the
fear of God.
h That is,
Christ with vs
and we with
our felues.
Ebr. 9. 14.
1. pet. 1. 19.
reu. 1. 6.
1. King. 8. 48.
2. chro. 6. 36.
pro. 20. 9.
eccl. 7. 20.
i If we be not
ashamed, ear-
nestly & open-
ly to acknow-
ledge our fel-
lowshipp with
God to be sancti-
fied.

CHAP. I.

2 True witnes of the euerlasting worde of God. 7 The blood of Christ is the purgation of sinne. 10 No man is without sinne.

a That is,
Christ God e-
ternal.
b That is,
Christ being
man.



That which was a from the beginning, which we haue heard, which we haue sene with our eyes, which we haue looked vpon, and our hands haue hadled of y Wor-

c Which gi-
ueth life and
had it in him
self, Ioh. 14.
d Before all be-
ginning.
e The effect of
the Gospel is,
y we all being
joyned toge-
ther in Christ
by faith, shul-
de be the son-
nes of God.

de of life,
(For the life appeared, and we haue sene it, and beare witnes, and shewe vnto you the eternal life, which was d with the Father, and appeared vnto vs)
That, I say, which we haue sene & heard, declare we vnto you, that ye may also haue fellowship with vs, and that our fellow-

ship also may be with the Father and with his Sonne Iesus Christ.

4 And these things write we vnto you, that your ioye may be ful.

5 This then is the message which we haue heard of him, and declare vnto you, that God * is light, & in him is no darkenes.

6 If we say y we haue fellowship with him, and walke in s darkenes, we lye, & do not truely.

7 But if we walke in the light as he is in the light, we haue fellowship h one with another, and the * blood of Iesus Christ his Sonne clenseth vs from all sinne.

8 * If we say that we haue no sinne, we deceiue our felues, and trueth is not in vs.

9 If we i acknowledge our sinnes, he is faith-ful and iust, to forgie vs our sinnes, & to cleanse vs from all vnrighteousnes.

New commandement. Chap.II.III. Of Antichrist. 112

Or, deliue.

10 If we say we haue not sinned, we make him a lier, and his worde is not in vs.

CHAP. II.

1 Christ is our Aduocate. 10 Of true loue, & how it is tried. 18 To beware of Antichrist.

1 MY babes, these things write I vnto you, that ye sinne not: and if any mā sinne, we haue an Aduocat with the Father, Iesus Christ, the Iust.

2 And he is the reconciliation for our sinnes: and not for ours onely, but also for the sinnes of the whole worlde.

3 And hereby we are sure that we knowe him, if we kepe his commandements.

4 He that saith, I knowe him, and kepeth not his commandments, is a lier, and the trueth is not in him.

5 But he that kepeth his worde, in him is the loue of God perfite in dede: hereby we knowe that we are in him.

6 He that saith he remaineth in him, ought euen so to walke, as he hath walked.

7 Brethren, I write no newe commandement vnto you: but an olde commandement, which ye haue had from the beginning: the olde commandement is the worde, which ye haue heard from the beginning.

8 Againe, a newe commandement I write vnto you, that which is true in him, and also in you: for the darkenes is past, and the true light now shineth.

9 He that saith that he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkenes vntil this time.

10 He that loueth his brother, abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of euil in him.

11 But he that hateth his brother, is in darkenes, and walketh in darkenes, & knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkenes hath blinded his eyes.

12 Little children, I write vnto you, because your sinnes are forgiven you for his Names sake.

13 I write vnto you, fathers, because ye haue known him that is frō the beginning. I write vnto you, yong men, because ye haue ouercome the wicked.

14 I write vnto you, babes, because ye haue knowe the Father. I haue writē vnto you, fathers, because ye haue known him, that is from the beginning. I haue writen vnto you, yong men, because ye are strong, and the worde of God abideth in you, and ye haue ouercome the wicked.

15 Loue not the worlde, neither the things that are in the worlde. If any mā loue the worlde, the loue of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the worlde (as the luste of the flesh, the luste of the eyes, & the pride of life) is not of the Father, but is of the worlde.

17 And the worlde passeth awaye, and the luste thereof: but he that fulfilleth the wil of God, abideth euer.

18 Babes, it is the last time, and as ye haue heard that Antichrist shal come, eue now are there many Antichrists: whereby we knowe that it is the last time.

19 They went out from vs, but they were not of vs: for if they had bene of vs, they wolde haue continued with vs. But this cometh to passe, that it might appeare, that they are not all of vs.

20 But ye haue an ointement frō him, that is Holye, & ye haue knowen all things.

21 I haue not writen vnto you, because ye knowe not the trueth: but because ye knowe it, and that no lye is of the trueth.

22 Who is a lier, but he that denyeth that Iesus is Christ: the same is the Antichrist that denyeth the Father and the Sonne.

23 Whosoever denyeth the Sonne, the same hath the Father.

24 Let therefore abide in you that same which ye haue heard from the beginning. If that which ye haue heard from the beginning, shal remaine in you, ye also shal continue in the Sonne, & in the Father.

25 And this is the promise that he hath promised vs, euen eternal life.

26 These things haue I writen vnto you, concerning them that deceiue you.

27 But the anointing which ye receiued of him, dwelleth in you: and ye nede not that any man teache you: but as the same Anointing teacheth you of all things, & it is true, & is not lying, & as it taught you, ye shal abide in him.

28 And now, little children, abide in him, that when he shal appeare, we may be bolde, and not be ashamed before him at his comming.

29 If ye knowe that he is righteous, knowe ye that he which doeth righteously, is borne of him.

CHAP. III.

1 The singular loue of God towards vs. 7 And how we againe ought to loue one another.

1 Beholde, what loue the Father hath shewed on vs, that we shulde be called the sonnes of God: for this cause the worlde knoweth you not, because it knoweth not him.

2 Dearly beloued, now are we the sonnes of God, but yet it doeth not appeare what we shalbe: and we knowe that when he shal appeare, we shalbe like him: for we shal se him as he is.

3 And euerie man that hath this hope in him, purgeth him self, euen as he is pure.

4 Whosoever committeth sinne, transgresseth also the Law: for sinne is the transgression of the Law.

5 And ye knowe that he appeared that he

ⁿ Which seemed to haue bene of our number, because for a tyme they occupied a place in the Church. ^o The grace of the holie Ghost which is Christ. ^q In this Epistle which I now write vnto you.

^r He that taketh away or diminisheth either of the nature in Christ, or he that confoundeth or separeteth them, eis he that putteth not difference betweene the person of the Sonne, & also he that beleueth not to haue remission of sinnes by his onely sacrifice, denieth Christ to be true Messias. ^s Then the infales worship not the true God.

^t But he that confesseth the Sonne, hath also the Father.

^u Christ communicateth himself vnto you and teacheth you by the holie Ghost & his misters.

^v Or, in Christ. ^w By this name he meaneth the whole Church of Christ in general.

^x Being made the sonnes of God in Christ, he sheweth what qualities we must haue to be discerned from bastards.

^y That is, Christ.

^z As the members and head are which make one perfect bodie.

^a That is, in whome sinne doth reign, so he seeketh not to be sanctified.

^a Christ is our onlie Aduocate and atonement: for the office of intercession and redemption are ioyned together.

^b That is, of them which haue embraced the Gospel by faith in all ages, degrees, & places: for there is no saluation without Christ.

^c That is, by faith and obedience: for knowledge cannot be without obedience.

^d Whereby he loueth God: so that to loue God is to obey his worde.

^e Or, deliue.

^f When the lawe was giuen.

^g Loue thy neighbour as thy self, is the olde commandement taught in the Law: but when Christ saith, So loue one another as I haue loued you, he giueth a newe commandement onely touching the forme, but not as touching the nature or substance of the precept.

^h Chap. 1. 14. He nameth all the faithful children, as he being their spiritual father, attributing to olde men knowledge of great things, to yong men strength, to children obedience & reuerence to their gouernours.

ⁱ For Christ sake.

^j Or, the deuil.

^k Or, the deuil. ^l As it is aduersarie to God. ^m 1. 4. 4.

ⁿ To live in pleasure. ^o Wantonnes. ^p Ambition & pride.

Wherefore Christ came.

I. Iohn. To trye the spirits.

*Iſa. 55. 9.
1. pet. 3. 22.*

might *take away our finnes, and in him is no sinne.

6 Whoſoeuer abideth in him, ſinneth not: whoſoeuer ſinneth, hathe not ſene him, neither hathe knowen him.

7 Litle children, let no man deceiue you: he that doeth righteouſnes, is righteous, as he is righteous.

Iohn 2. 44.

e As appeared by Adam.

8 He that *committeth sinne, is of the deuill: for the deuill ſinneth from the *beginning: for this purpose appeared the Sonne of God, that he might loſe the workes of the deuill.

9 Whoſoeuer is borne of God, ſinneth not: for his *ſede remaineth in him, neither can he ſinne, becauſe he is borne of God.

*f Which is the holie Goſt.
g He can not be vnder the power of sinne becauſe the Spirit of God correcteth his euil and corrupt affections.
h He deſcendeth from the firſt table of 7 commandements to the ſeconde.
Iohn 13. 34.
e 15. 13.
Gen. 4. 8.*

10 In this are the childre of God knowen, and the children of the deuill: whoſoeuer doeth not righteouſnes, is not of God, neither he that ^h loueth not his brother.

11 For this is the meſſage, that ye heard fro the beginning, that *we ſhulde loue one another,

12 Not as *Cain which was of the wicked, and ſlew his brother: & wherefore ſlew he him? becauſe his owne workes were euil, and his brothers good.

13 Marueile not, my brethren, thogh ^h worlde hate you.

14 We knowe that we are translated from death vnto life, becauſe we ⁱ loue the brethren: *he that loueth not ^{his} brother, abideth in death.

*k This loue is the ſpecial fruite of our faith and a certaine ſigne of our regeneration.
Chap. 2. 10.
Iohn 13. 17.*

15 Whoſoeuer hateth his brother, is a man-ſlayer: & ye knowe that no man ſlayer hathe eternal life abiding in him.

*Iohn 15. 13.
aphs. 3. 2.*

16 *Hereby haue we perceiued loue, that he laid downe his life for vs: therefore we ought alſo to lay downe ^{our} liues for the brethren.

Luk. 3. 12.

17 *And whoſoeuer hathe this worldes good and ſeeth his brother haue nede, and ſhureth vp his copaffion from him, how dwel-
leth the loue of God in him?

18 My litle children, let vs not loue in worde, neither in tongue ^{onely}, but in *dede & in trueth.

l Which is not the cauſe, wherefore we are ^h ſonnes of God, but a more certaine ſigne.

19 For thereby we knowe that we are of the trueth & ſhal before him aſſure our hearts.

*m If our conſcience being guiltie of any thing, be able to condemne vs, muche more ^h iudgement of God which knoweth our hearts better than we our ſelues, is able to condemne vs.
Iohn 15. 7.
e 16. 23.
mat. 23. 22.
chap. 5. 24.
Iohn 6. 29.
e 17. 3.
Iohn 13. 34.
e 15. 10.*

20 For if our ^h heart condemne vs, God is greater then our heart, and knoweth all things.

21 Beloued, if our heart condemne vs not, then haue we boldenes towarde God.

22 *And whatſoeuer we aſke, we receiue of him, becauſe we kepe his commandements, and do thoſe things which are pleaſing in his fight.

23 *This is then his commandement, That we beleue in the Name of his Sonne Ieſus Chriſt, and loue one another, as he gaue commandement.

24 *For he that kepeth his commadements,

dwelleth in him, and he in him: & hereby we knowe that he abyedeth in vs, ^{euen} by the Spirit which he hathe giuen vs.

CHAP. IIIII.

1 Difference of ſpirits. 2 How the Spirit of God may be knowne from the ſpirit of errour. 7 Of the loue of God and of our neighbours.

1 **D**erely beloued, beleue not euerie Spirit, but trye the ^a ſpirits whether they are of God: for many falſe Prophetes are gone out into the worlde.

a The which booke that thei haue the Spirit to preache or propheticie.

2 Hereby ſhal ye knowe the Spirit of God, Euerie ſpirit that confeſſeth that Ieſus Chriſt is come in the fleſh, is of God.

*b Who being very God came from his Father and toke vpon him our fleſh. He ^h confeſſeth or preacheth this truely, hathe the Spirit of God, els not.
c He began to builde the myſterie of iniquitie.
d Satan the prince of the worlde.*

3 And euerie ſpirit which confeſſeth not that Ieſus Chriſt is come in the fleſh, is not of God: but this is the ^h ſpirit of Antichriſt, of whome ye haue heard, how ^h he ſhulde come & ^c now already he is in the worlde.

4 Litle children, ye are of God, and haue overcome them: for greater is he that is in you, then ^d he that is in the worlde.

5 They are of the worlde, therefore ſpeake they of the worlde, and the worlde heareth them.

*Iohn 8. 47.
e With pure affection & obedience.*

6 We are of God, *he that knoweth God, ^e heareth vs: he that is not of God, heareth vs not. Hereby knowe we the Spirit of trueth, and the ſpirit of errour.

7 Beloued, let vs loue one another: for loue cometh of God, & euerie one that loueth, is borne of God, and knoweth God.

8 He that loueth not, knoweth not God: for God is loue.

9 *In ^f this appeared ^h loue of God towarde vs, becauſe God ſent his onely begottē Sonne into the worlde, that we might liue through him.

*Iohn 3. 16.
f Trueth is it, ^h God hathe declared his loue in many other things, but herein hath he paſſed all other.
g By his onely death.*

10 Herein is loue, not that we loued God, but that he loued vs, and ſent his ſonne to be a ſreconciliation for our finnes.

11 Beloued, if God ſo loued vs, we ought alſo to loue one another.

12 *No man hathe ſene God at any time. If we loue one another, God dwelleth in vs, and his loue is perſite in vs.

*Iohn 1. 18.
1. Tim. 6. 16.*

13 Hereby knowe we, that we dwell in him, and he in vs: becauſe he hathe giuen vs of his Spirit.

14 And we haue ſene, and do teſtifie, that the Father ſent the Sōne to be the Sauour of the worlde.

15 Whoſoeuer ^h confeſſeth that Ieſus is the Sonne of God, in him dwelleth God, and he in God.

h So that his confeſſion produced faith

16 And we haue knowen, and beleued the loue that God hathe ⁱ in vs. God is loue, & he that dwelleth in loue, dwelleth in God, and God in him.

*i Or, towards vs.
j By inſpiring it into vs.*

17 Herein is the loue perſite in vs, that we ſhulde haue boldenes in the day of iudgement: for as he is, euen ſo are we in this worlde.

18 There

*h Suche as
shulde trouble
the conscience.*

18 There is no ^k feare in loue, but perfect loue casteth out feare: for feare hathe painfulness: and he that feareth, is not perfect in loue.

19 We loue him, because he loued vs first.

*i For god pre-
sent him self
to vs in them,
which beare
his image.*

20 If anie man say, I loue God, and hate his brother, he is a lyer: for^l how can he that loueth not his brother whome he hathe the sene, loue God whome he hathe not sene?

*Iohn 13. 43.
& 15. 12.*

21 * And this commandement haue we of him, that he which loueth God, shulde loue his brother also.

CHAP. V.

*1. 10. 13 Of the frutes of faith. 14. 20 The office, autoritie,
& diuinitie of Christ. 21 Against images.*

*a Is regenerat
by the vertue
of his Spirit.*

WHosoever beleueth that Iesus is the Christ, is^a borne of God, & euerie one that loueth him, which begate, loueth him also which is begottē of him.

2 In this we knowe that we loue the children of God, when we loue^b God, & kepe his commandements.

*b The loue of
God must go
before, or els
we ca not loue
aright.*

3 For this is the loue of God that we kepe his commandements: and his^c commandements are not^c grieuous.

*Mat. 11. 30.
e They are ca-
se to the son-
nes of God, &
are led with
his Spirit: for
ther delite
therein.*

4 For all that is borne of God, ouercometh the worlde: and this is the victorie that ouercometh the worlde, *even* our faith.

1. Cor. 15. 57.

5 * Who is it that ouercometh the worlde, but he which beleueth that Iesus is the Sonne of God?

*d That is, re-
generation.
e The water &
blood that ca-
me out of his
side, declare
y we haue our
sinnes washed
by him, & he
hath made ful
satisfactio for
the same.*

6 This is that Iesus Christ that came by^d water^e & blood, not by water onely, but by water and blood: and it is the^f spirit, y beareth witnes: for the Spirit is^g truth.

7 For there are thre, which beare recorde in heauen, the Father, the Worde, and the holie Golt: and these thre are one.

*f Our minde
inspired by
holie Golt.
g Which testi-
fies to our
hearts, that we
be y children
of God.*

8 And there are thre, which beare recorde in the earth, the spirit and the water and the blood: and these thre agre in one.

9 If we receiue the wittnes of men, the wittnes of God is greater: for this is the wit-

nes of God, which he testified of his Sōne.

10 * He that beleueth in the Sōne of God, *Iohn 3. 32.* hathe the wittnes^h in him self: he that beleueth not God, hathe made him a lyer, because he beleued not the recorde, y God witnessed of his Sonne.

11 And this is the recorde, that God hathe giuen vnto vs eternal life, and this life is in his Sonne.

12 He that hathe the Sonne, hathe life: and he that hathe not the Sonne of God, hathe not life.

13 These things haue I written vnto you, that beleue in the Name of the Sonne of God, that ye may knowe that ye haue eternal life, and that ye may beleue in the Name of the Sonne of God.

14 And this is the assurance, that we haue in him, * that if we aske anie thing accord-ⁱing to his wil, he heareth vs.

Mat. 7. 7.

& 21. 22.

chap. 3. 22.

15 And if we knowe that he heareth vs, whatsoeuer we aske, we knowe that we haue the petitions that we haue desired of him.

h Although e-

uerie sinne be

to death, yet

God through

his mercie par-

doneth his in

his Sonne

Christ.

Mat. 12. 31.

mar. 3. 29.

luk. 12. 10.

16 If anie man se his brother sinne a sinne, that is not vnto death, let him aske, and he shal giue him life for them that sinne not^j vnto death. * There is a sinneⁱ vnto death: I say not that thou shuldest praye for it.

i As theirs is

whome God

doeth so forsa-

ke that they

fall into vnto

dispaire.

k Gueeth not

him self so

uer to sinne, y

he forgetteth

God

l I takeh hede

that he sinne

not.

m That is, Sa-

tan.

n With a mor-

tal wounde.

luk. 24. 45.

o That is, all

me generally,

as of them sel-

ues lye as if

were buried

in euil.

p Christ verie

God.

q Meaning fro

euerie forme

and facion of

thing which is

set vp for a

nie deuotio

to worlship

God.

17 All vnrighteousnes is sinne, but there is a sinne not vnto death.

18 We knowe that whosoever is borne of God, ^k sinneth not: but he that is begotten of God, ^l kepeth him self, & the^m wickedⁿ toucheth him not.

19 We knowe that we are of God, and the whole worlde^o lyeth in wickednes.

20 But we knowe that the Sonne of God is^p come, & hathe giue vs a minde to knowe him, which is true: and we are in him that is true, *that is*, in his Sonne Iesus Christ: this same is verie^q God, and eternal life.

21 Babes, kepe your selues fro^r vidoles, Amē.

THE SECONDE

Epistle of Iohn.

He writeth vnto a certaine ladie. 4 Reioicing that her children walke in the trueth, 5 And exhorteth them vnto loue, 7 Warneth them to beware of suche deceiuers as denie that Iesus Christ is come in the flesh, 8 Praieth them to continue in the doctrine of Christ, 10 And to haue nothing to do with them that bring not the true doctrine of Christ Iesus our Saviour.

10. 2. 2. 2. 2.



The Elder to the^s elect Ladie, and her children, whome I loue in^a the trueth: and not I onely, but also all that haue knowen y^t trueth, For the trueths sake

*a According to
godlines & not
v anie world-
lie affection.*

which dwelleth in vs, and shalbe with vs for euer:

3 Grace be with you, mercie & peace from God the Father, and from the Lord Iesus Christ the Sonne of the Father, with^b trueth and loue.

4 I reioiced greatly, that I founde of thy children walking^c in trueth, as we haue receiued a commandement of the Father.

5 And now beseeche I thee, Ladie, (not as writing a new commandement vnto thee, but that same which we had from the beginning) that we^d loue one another.

FFF.i.

b We can not

receiue y gra-

ce of God, ex-

cept we haue

the true know-

ledge of him,

of the which

knowledge loue

proceedeth.

c According to

Gods worde.

Iohn 15. 10.