

/We will begin the second lecture on 1 John. /The title is “Spiritual Knowledge.”

/Let’s look at the main points. /First, believers are redeemed through Christ. /Verses 1-2. /Second, those who know God obey his commands. / Verses 3-6.

/Third, love your brother. /Verses 7-11. /Fourth, encourage each believer to walk in the right way. /Verses 12-14. /Fifth, do not love the world. /Verses 15-17. /Sixth, watch out for antichrists. /Verses 18-23. /Seventh, eternal life. /Verses 24-29.

/Let’s look at the outline of chapter 2. /In order to forgive the sins of man, Jesus became the atoning sacrifice. / Whoever believes in Him must obey God’s commands.

/What are the commands? /Here it speaks of three things. /Love your brother, /do not love the world, /and discern lies and watch out for heresies.

/It emphasizes that we who have been saved by the grace of God /must live sanctified lives. /The apostle John stresses that we belong to Christ. /He says that many times in chapter 2. /Let’s briefly discuss this.

/Chapter 2, verses 4, /5, /6, /9, /1, /14, /15, /17, /19, /24, /and 28. /It is stressed several times that believers must live in Christ. /Even if one may be a believer, he is of the world if he does not abide in Christ.

/We believers are of the light and are people of love. /We must live in God who is life. /When we live in God, we are given light and love, which are the essence of God. /In life, we can bear the fruit of faith.

/We will become like Christ. /John first emphasizes that we must love our brother. /Verses 1-11. /This is an old command, /but at the same time it is Jesus’ command. /John 13:34

/Whoever hates his brother is in darkness /but whoever loves his brother lives in the light. /In 2:10, 11, / we can see a measure of sincerity of believers. /It is passively staying far away from sin, /and actively achieving the life of love.

/In Galatians 5:6, it says that the only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love. /Living faith comes from love. /Second, we must be believers who conquer the world.

/In verses 12-17, /because everything of the world is not from God the Father, /we believers must not love the world. /Because the world belongs to darkness, it rejected Christ.

/Satan has the authority of the world. /Even though we live in the world, / we must not be assimilated into the world /or indulge in the world. /We must not follow the world. /We most certainly must not love the world.

/In 5:4, it says that we must overcome the world with faith. /Third, he emphasizes that we must defend our faith. /Verses 18-29, /says that we must hold on to our faith /when false prophets deceive us in the end of times.

/How can we hold on to faith? /We must put our hope in the eternal life we received from God, /the guidance we receive from the Holy Spirit to the truth, /and in Jesus who is to come. /We can overcome the world with the power of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

/Read 2:1. /My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense – Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

/This verse shows the purpose of why John wrote this epistle. /He wrote so that believers would not sin. /John, who was an old man, /encouraged the believers as if they were his dear children.

/The reason that God frequently encourages and teaches us through his word /is so that we would not commit sins. /Because we live in the world /and our bodies have desires of this world, /we must fight the good fight. /Hebrews 12:4.

/We must also actively do good. /Genesis 4:7. /Believers must always live holy lives. /At the time, there were people who claimed that the flesh could live as it wanted because the souls were saved.

/This is not true faith but false faith. /If a believer lives while sinning in the world, he abandons his essence as a believer. /However, if we sin due to weak faith or our ignorance, /we have Jesus who speaks to the Father in our defense.

/The one who speaks to the Father is our Helper and our Defender. /Jesus Christ becomes our true Intercessor who accomplishes all righteousness. /Although we are believers, we still have weaknesses and limits in the world. /Jesus defends believers who have sinned.

/We must not hide the sins we have committed. /We will be forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ. /When we sin, Satan loves to point out our sins and condemns us.

/However, Jesus prays to God for us while saying that He died on the cross for our sins. /Romans 8:34. /We must not sin, /but when we sin as a result of our lack of faith, /we must confess it all to Jesus, our true Mediator.

/Verse 2. /He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

/Jesus became the atoning sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of the whole world. /Here, “the whole world” does not refer to all mankind. /It refers to the chosen people /among all the people in the world.

/Jesus came down to the world to take charge of the sins that are committed by the chosen around the world. /The atoning sacrifice was a way of fellowship with God in the Old Testament times.

/When the high priest offered an animal in place of those who sinned as a burnt offering, /God received the fragrant offering, /and fellowship between God and his people was restored.

/Jesus gave Himself as an atoning sacrifice /for mankind who was disconnected from God as a result of sin. /The blood of Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for all people regardless of one's nation or race.

/However, if Jesus shed His blood for all the people in the world, /the blood of Jesus would be good for nothing. /The blood that Jesus shed is the atoning sacrifice only for those who are chosen. /It is not right to say that it is unlimited atonement.

/The Bible clearly shows that there are the chosen and the unchosen, / there are wheat and weeds, /and the sheep are separated from the goats. /Likewise, the precious blood of Jesus is the rock of our faith.

/Isaiah 28:16 says, /“See, I lay a stone in Zion, /a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation.” /The stone never wavers in the midst of difficulties and troubles. /It is never shaken and will stand firm in troubles of the world.

/The stone will never change due to conditions or circumstances. /Now, let's discuss the four characteristics of the stone. /First, Jesus is the rock of salvation in our faith. / Acts 4:12. /Salvation is found in no one else, /for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

/What is the meaning of the name of Jesus? /It means the Savior who will save His people from their sins.

/Jesus is the only way /by which we can be saved from sin and death. /There is no other way to salvation.

/It is impossible to be saved through another religion. /We must believe that Jesus alone is the only way, /the only truth, /and the only life. /Second, Jesus is the rock of faith.

/Hebrews 12:2. /Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. /Jesus is the author of our faith, and the teacher who leads us. /As athletes have coaches, /and as students have teachers, /Jesus is the teacher of our faith.

/To live a faithful life, we must be led by Christ. /What did Jesus do? /What pleased Jesus? /Then, our characters will gradually become complete.

/Our spirits will grow and we will become more and more like Jesus. /When we fix our eyes on Jesus, we gain strength and courage. /We do not have to despair when troubles or difficulties come our way. /On the other hand, if we look to things other than Jesus, we will be disappointed and discouraged.

/Peter walked on the water when he fixed his eyes on Jesus. /However, he began to sink when he saw the wind and waves. /We must open our spiritual eyes and fix our eyes on Jesus only.

/Then, joy, hope, courage and power will overflow in us. /We will see the works of the power of the Lord. /Before the suffering of the cross, /Jesus looked upon the joy of resurrection, ascension and the throne of God.

/ Jesus fulfilled His mission to the end, and God exalted Him to the highest place. /Therefore, Jesus is the rock of our faith. /Third, Jesus is the rock of victory of our faith.

/In Revelations 6:2, /Jesus sits on a white horse was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest. /The white color generally belongs to God. /Isaiah 1:18. /Matthew 17:1-2. /Riding a horse refers to war.

/The gospel movement of Jesus Christ is winning over and over again. /Jesus will have the final victory. /Even though Satan crucified Jesus, /the Lord rose in three days and triumphed.

/The gospel has the power of God and it will win anytime and everywhere. /The gospel has the power of life. /Romans 1:16. /Jesus had victory over the authority of Satan, /and He is winning through the gospel movement today.

/No matter how strong the power of darkness may be, /it will never conquer the light of the gospel. /As the light grows brighter, darkness will gradually disappear. /As the works of gospel grows, /the power of Satan recedes.

/Fourth, /Jesus is the rock of the hope of our faith. /Colossians 3:1. /Jesus gave life to our souls that were dead in sin. /Jesus achieved redemption on the cross and He prays for us at the right hand of God.

/Jesus helps us. /Romans 8:34. /When Stephen was martyred, Jesus helped him at the right hand of God. /While we live in this world, /we must always look upon Christ, who is our hope.

/Then, there will be no worries. /There will be no fear. /There will be living hope. /When we finally leave this world, /all that we hoped in will be achieved. /Although David was king, /in Psalm 39:7, /he says that his hope is in the Lord.

/Abraham also looked forward the better home /the place where God is. /Hebrews 11:10. /The apostle Paul also said that our citizenship is in heaven. /Philippians 3:20.

/Therefore, if we hold on to Jesus, our rock, /there will be nothing on earth that we will fear. /There will be no worries. /We must hold on to Jesus, /who is our salvation, faith, victory, and our hope, /and we must not be shaken.

/Verse 3. We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands.

/If we truly know God and believe in him, we can obey his commands. /Proof that we know God is obedience to his commands. /Jesus also said this.

/Whoever has my commands and obeys them, /he is the one who loves me. /He who loves me /will be loved by my Father, /and I too will love him and show myself to him. / John 14:21.

/When we faithfully keep the Lord's commands, /we can say we know Him. /This is the measure of our love towards the Lord.

/No matter how many times we may say we love the Lord, /if we turn from His commands, /we do not do as we say, /we are liars and there is no truth in us. /Therefore, if we truly know God, we will obey God's word.

/Verse 4. /The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

/If anyone does not do what God commands while saying, "I know God," /he does not know God truly. /If he truly knows God, /he will keep God's commands, /and God will give him rewards and blessings. /Those who do not keep the commands will be judged and punished.

/Those who know worldly kings and their authority /will fear the king and obey his commands. /What happens if someone goes against a king's orders? /He may die. /Then how could one who knows the authority of God /not keep his commands?

/Our God is fair. /God makes us reap what we sow. /Galatians 6:7-8 says that / God cannot be mocked. /A man reaps what he sows.

/A man reaps what he sows. /If he sows to please his sinful nature, /he will reap destruction. /The one who sows to please the Spirit, /from the Spirit he will reap eternal life. /If we truly love God /and we sow seeds of obedience, then we will reap what we sow.

/God told us that he would show love to a thousand generations. /Exodus 20:6. / To those who love God and keep his commandments, /he will show love to a thousand generations.

/We must not sow what will rot in the world. /We must not want to reap eternal life while sowing to please our sinful natures. /Instead, we must work for the bread of eternal life.

/Knowing God and Jesus is related to eternal life. /If we don't know God, /we cannot obey him. /If we do not obey him, we cannot receive blessings. /Knowing the LORD is our strength.

/Here, "to know" does not indicate physical knowledge, /but means that our spirits understand through faith. /If we truly know Jesus, /then we can love Him. /If we love the Lord, we can keep His commands. / God gives blessings and rewards to those who keep his commands.

/Verse 5. /But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him:

/If anyone obeys his word, /God's love is truly made complete in him. /This is because God's word is love, /it is life, /and it is power. /Why is God's word love? /God gave us the gospel of his word because he loved us.

/Jesus gave up all the authority of heaven, /Jesus the Word became flesh and came down to this world. /We are saved by the Word, /and we received forgiveness of sins and will enjoy eternal life.

/God gave us his word to us who were saved / because he loves us. /When we keep his word, /God gives us blessings as proof of his love for us. /In 5:3, it says that his commands are not burdensome.

/God's word is life. /As we eat daily bread for our bodies, /we must eat God's word to give life to our souls. /We believers must always keep God's word close, /diligently read the Bible, /learn it, /meditate on it, /and obey /so that the life of our souls can grow.

/God's word is power. /The gospel is God's power that gives salvation to all who believe. /The power appears wherever the gospel goes. /There are changes where the gospel is, /whether it be homes, neighborhoods, or nations.

/The hopeless become hopeful. /Those who have lived in darkness come out to the light of the word. /The gospel entered Korea in 1885. /Korea was once a barren land but it became a developed nation after the gospel entered.

/We have nothing to boast of. /Although we can't do things well, /we gain power through the gospel. /In the same way, if the love of God works in man, /spiritual communication will be made complete in Christ.

/If man does not have the love of God, /his life will be barren, /desolate, /and there will be no joy in serving God. /However, if man is filled with God's love, /he has satisfaction, joy and hope. /He will be thankful and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

/Verse 6. /Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.

/Those who live in Jesus cannot help but love others. /This is because those who live in Jesus/ follow the way of Jesus and keep His commands. /Just as grapevines bear fruit /when the branches remain on them, /we will bear fruit of love /when we remain in Jesus.

/We are never alone. /The apostle Paul said, "I have been crucified with Christ." /Paul lived by the life of Christ. Galatians 2:20.

/Jesus lives in us, /and we live with Him. /All our actions must acknowledge God, /love Jesus, /and obey the words of Jesus.

/Jesus is our Lord. /The corruption in us must die daily, /we must think like Jesus, /speak like Jesus, /and act like Jesus. /Jesus became the example of love for us.

/We must live a life of love that was shown in the life of Jesus. /Jesus spoke to His disciples at the Holy Communion. /As I have loved you, so you must love one another. /John 13:34.

/When we live by corruption and greed of the flesh, there is no love in us, /but when we acknowledge Jesus and follow His examples, /we can be people of love.

/Those who do not have love can change to overflow with love. /When we act with love, the places we go can become places of joy. /The places can become heaven.

/Verse 7. /Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard.

/Love is the center and the core of all commands. /The old command refers to the commands of the Old Testament. /The doctrine of the Old Testament commands is love. /Deuteronomy 6:5, /Leviticus 19:18. /Love is the doctrine of all laws and prophets.

/We all heard the command of love in the Old Testament. /Also, the new command that Jesus gave us is love. /An expert in the law asked Jesus, “Which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

/Jesus taught him the command, “Love your God with all you have, /and love your neighbor as yourself.” /Love is the greatest commandment. /“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. /But the greatest of these is love.”

/1 Corinthians chapter 13 is about love. /Without love, there is no use of speaking in the tongues of men and of angels. /If I have the gift of prophecy, /if I can fathom all mysteries, /if I have all knowledge, /and if I have a faith that can move mountains, /but if I have not love, I am nothing.

/Although we can give aid to the needy, /or dedicate ourselves to the utmost, /if we have not love, there is no good thing. /Let not debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another. /Romans 13:8. /All things that are done without love are meaningless.

/Christianity is the religion of love. /God gave his beloved one and only Son to us. /Jesus died on the cross because He loved us.

/Where can we find devotional, self-giving and unconditional love like this in this world? /We received infinite love that cannot be found anywhere in the world. /Therefore, we must love.

/Verse 8. / Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

/It says that a new command to love one another was given. /John 13:34. / “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

/Jesus said this when He was on earth. /Both the old and new commands are about love. /Then, why one command old and the other new? /That is because Jesus completed love.

/Jesus displayed complete love. /By dying on the cross, Jesus clothed us with love. /The period of darkness passed and Christ came and shone His light on us.

/Ephesians 5:14. /Wake up, O sleeper, /rise from the dead, /and Christ will shine on you.” /Christ shines the true light in the New Testament times, /and He invites all who are in darkness to come to the light.

/The Lord leads believers who have fallen asleep in faith to the light. /What characteristics does a light have? /It brightens up dark places. /Christ came to the dark world and lit it up.

/The Lord came to wandering and dark spirits and gave them light. /Jesus came as the light of life. /Whoever believes in Jesus is freed from his sins. /He overcomes fear of death.

/The life of our spirits will never die. /We gained eternal life. /Jesus is the light of the truth. /Those who come to Christ are freed from ignorance, sins /and lies.

/With this we will conclude the second lecture of 1 John. /Thank you.