

/We will now begin the fifth lecture on 1 John.

/Read 3:4-5. /Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.

/Children of God must always fight against sin. /When believers of faith sin, they break the law. /We know that Jesus came to wash away our sins.

/However, when we sin, we do evil by breaking the law. /Our Jesus is sinless, and thus, came to this earth to wash away our sins. /The cross of the Lord was an atonement for our sins.

/Jesus gave Himself as a sacrifice in order to wash away our sins. /His sacrifice was an accomplishment of a complete and eternal atonement. /Therefore, we must together fight against sin so that we may be like the sinless Jesus.

/Hebrews 12:4 /One who fights and wins against sin is a great man. /God is pleased with such people and considers them worthy. /There is the old self and the new self in constant battle within us.

/The apostle Paul always won in this battle. /Therefore, he was able to bear with worldwide missions and was greatly used by God. /We must daily win the good fight. /We must go down the path laid out for us. /When we keep our faith, God reserves the crown of righteousness for us.

/Verse 6. /No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

/This verse gives us the answer to how we believers can stop sinning. /That is possible when we live in Christ Jesus. /Even believers sin because they live in the flesh.

/When we sin, our spirits cannot see or know Christ. /Even believers drift apart from Jesus and become weak in faith when they sin. /Therefore, believers must not continue to sin.

/1 John 2:1 says, God does not want us to sin. /The best way for believers is to not sin, /yet, if one sins after he has become weak, he must repent of his sins before our advocate Jesus.

/Then Jesus, our Mediator, will tell God about our sins and will forgive us. /Jesus told Peter, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet."

/We have been forgiven of our sins of the past and the future by the blood and merit of Jesus Christ. /We are forgiven of all our sins when we believe.

/Yet, we must continue to repent of our sins daily and receive forgiveness. /When we

earnestly repent of our sins to God, he will forgive us of our sins so that we may be clean.

/Verses 7-8. /Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

/God's children must always be on alert for those who may lead them astray. /There were prevalent views of cults in the early church who denied that God's only begotten Son came into this world as fully man.

/These views of cults became the doctrine of evil spirits who attempt to lead believers astray. /This means that the powers of the devil are evil powers that lead God's children away. /Believers who are in God must always act in righteousness, proclaim the truth, and become more like the Lord.

/Jesus came, died on the cross and was resurrected, and completely annihilated the works of the devil. /As a result, Jesus was able to build the kingdom of God and complete righteousness. /He opened the way for us to become like Him.

/There are those who are of God and those who are of the devil and the world. /The only way to distinguish between the two is through faith in Jesus Christ. /This faith is more precious than gold.

/When we use our faith, we can recognize the deceiving powers and win. /There are many deceiving spirits in this world and we must overcome them. /We must win with the doctrine of faith.

/Verse 9. /No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.

/The reborn souls in believers (the faithful) **do not commit sins**. However, believers are frail and are capable of committing sins. /The soul that is born again through the Holy Spirit and the Word do not ever sin. /The souls of believers have become holy in character through the Word.

/Then believers received positions as children of God. /The reborn soul never sins. /Then what commits sins? /The corruption (of the old self) of the flesh which lies within believers (the faithful) causes believers to sin.

/The Bible makes clearly distinctions between the spirit and the flesh. /The works of the spirit and the works of the flesh, /the new self and the old self, /the thoughts of the spirit and the thoughts of the flesh. /The reborn soul does not sin, but when believers chase after corruption of the flesh, they are capable of sinning.

/The reborn soul is a new self, and the corruption of the flesh is the old self. /The two

powers coexist in our hearts. /The apostle Paul also suffered from the waging war between the two powers. /Romans 7:24 /“What a wretched man I am!” /“Who will rescue me from this body of death?”

/The apostle Paul confessed. /1 Peter 2:11 /It says, “abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.” /Our fight is not of flesh and blood. /We must fight against the old selves that are in us and we must win. /Those who win in this fight are true victors.

/Believers do not sin when they live as new selves. /However, when they live in the old selves, they will sin. /It says in 5:18, “anyone born of God does not continue to sin.” /The evil one cannot harm us.

/The devil can harm our bodies but he can never touch our souls. /The souls of believers have been born again through the God’s Word and the Holy Spirit, and have become new selves. /1 Peter 1:23 /God saved our souls /with his Word and the Holy Spirit.

/In this way our souls have been reborn. /In this way the Word of God acts as a seed that transforms our souls. /It says that we have this treasure in jars of clay.

/Jars of clay refer to our fleshly bodies, and it is of no value. /Yet, there is treasure in the jars of clay. /This refers to the duties of the gospel that has been given to us and our souls.

/The soul that has been born again does not die, does not sin, and grows closer to Christ. /The soul that has been made in the image of God will begin to resemble the character of God. /Our grown souls will then go to heaven.

/The Bible speaks many times of this truth. /When Paul wrote to the church of Philippi, /he said, “continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling.” /Paul said the same thing when he wrote to the church of Galatia.

/Paul said, “I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you.” /Then Paul said the same when he wrote to the church of Ephesus. /He said, “speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.”

/He said, “put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; /to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.”

/Verse 10. /This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother.

/Here it tells us the characteristics of the devil. /It speaks of two things. /The first characteristic is that he does not do what is right. /The people of the world cannot reach God’s standard, which is to do what is right.

/In order to achieve righteousness, one must keep the 613 laws. /However, there is no one in this world who can keep all the laws. /Even if one were to keep 612 laws, he would be defying all of them if he were to defy one law. /Sinners come short of God's righteousness.

/Then who are those who act righteously? /They are those who believe in Jesus Christ, who came completely righteous. /Jesus sacrificed everything for righteousness, and lastly, He gave his life to God.

/The Lord confessed on the cross that all righteousness was completed. /Jesus did not come to this earth to call the righteous, but to call sinners and make them righteous. /Matthew 9:13 /What is the second characteristic of the devil?

/It is that he does not love his brother. /This love is not fleshly or selfish love. /This is the sacrificial and unconditional love of God.

/Only those who have received this love from God can love his brother. /Hatred is murder. /Cain murdered his brother through evil that resulted from hatred. /People of the world are selfish and love temporarily, and there is no true love. /Verse 12 speaks of Cain, the representative of unbelievers.

/Verse 12. /Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous.

/Cain murdered his brother, /and his actions were evil and he was disobedient. /He became a murderer by calling his brother out of jealousy. /God accepted his brother's offering but rejected Cain's, and thus, Cain struck and killed his brother.

/Cain became the first murderer in the history of mankind. /Cain's murder was a result of him being unable to love his own brother. /Hatred for one's brother is equivalent to murder. /We believers must not even think to hate our brothers.

/Hatred is the archetypal attribute of the devil. /It is to kill others through hatred. /There is the old saying, "to turn green with envy." /This stemmed from jealousy among brothers.

/Verse 11 tells us the characteristics of the children of God.

/Read verse 11. /This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.

/A characteristic of the children of God is that they love one another. /The apostle John received the most love from Jesus. /Those who receive love must put it into action. /That is what it means to be children of God.

/The Ten Commandments are the core of the laws, /and the core of the Ten

Commandments is love. /The core of the gospel is also based on love. /God's great love in giving us his one and only Son, /and the great love of Jesus in dying for us on the cross is a demonstration of his love for us.

/Today we must put this love into actions, and we must proclaim it to all corners of the earth. /We must put the great love we have received from the Lord into action.

/Verse 13. /Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates you.

/We believers must not be surprised if the world hates us. /Rather, we must consider it natural. /This is because the world is of the devil. /We believers are of God.

/Jesus clearly spoke in John 15:19. /The world hated Jesus and that is why the world hates believers. /It says in 1 Peter 4:12. /Do not consider it strange if the world hates us.

/We believers have come from this world. /Yet, now we are of God and therefore, we must not chase after the customs of this world and everything it offers. /When the world hates us, we must not consider it strange but be even more thankful.

/2 Timothy 3:12 says, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. /The world hated Jesus and nailed Him on the cross to die. /The apostle John was also persecuted from preaching the gospel and was exiled to the Island of Patmos.

/The history of Christianity testifies to this. /There were many believers in the early church who were persecuted by the Romans. /At the time, many believers were burned at the stake by the Romans. /Believers also became food for lions.

/Believers were persecuted through the works of the devil, the cunning mastermind behind the persecutions. /Today, we must not consider it strange when we are persecuted and we must not be afraid. /The Lord defeated the world, and when we use our faith we can also defeat the world.

/We need to know that the world will never think highly of believers. /The world criticizes and complains when the church makes the smallest of mistakes. /They harshly criticize and attack Christianity. /We believers have three types of sufferings in this world.

/These are mentioned in 1 Peter 2:19-20. /There are hardships from authorities, /hardships from sin, /and hardships for doing good. /We must not receive hardships from sin.

/Also, we must not be downcast when we receive hardships from authorities and for doing good. /We must put our hope in the glory of Christ and must overcome sufferings. /1 Peter 4:13.

/Verse 14. /We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death.

/We must love our brothers and enter the world of love. /The world of love is the world of life and the world of the spirit. /This is to become one with the world of God. /When we believers love, we must enter life from death.

/However, those who do not love will remain in death. /The world of the devil does not love and it is a world of hatred, jealousy, and murder. /We believers can act in love when we remain in the world of love.

/When we act in love, the love will overflow and we will become people of love, /we will be beneficial to others, and God will be glorified. /Love cannot come out of the world of the devil, for that world is one of hatred and death.

/Thus, it is said that the aroma of Christ is the fragrance of life. /It says, stench is the smell of death. /2 Corinthians 2:15 /We believers must strive to enter the world of love.

/Then we can produce even the smallest amount of love. /No matter how much our enemies may hate us, we must approach them with good hearts. /When we do not enter the world of love and attempt to love others, it will be forced and we ultimately will not be able to love. /It is only when we enter the world of love that we can have true happiness, joy, and hope.

/Verse 15. /Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.

/When believers hate their brothers, they are murderers and proof of death. /The root of murder lies in hatred. /Jesus said to turn the left cheek when struck on the right cheek. /Jesus said to give your cloak when someone wants to take your tunic.

/Jesus said to go two miles when someone forces you to go one mile. /What does this mean? /It means that even if we are personally insulted, we must enjoy peace in our hearts and not hate the other person.

/We believers must not hate when we want to, and to love is to act in faith. /This is the way to defeat the devil. /It says, "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

/There is no need to be upset when we are falsely charged, /or if others curse and attack us. /When we do not hate them but love them, God will reveal everything. /We must not hate our brothers no matter what, and our hearts must be filled with love.

/The high priests and elders were jealous, and they had Jesus put to death on the cross. /The first murderer, Cain, hated his brother and killed him by striking him with a rock. /Joseph's brothers hated Joseph and sold him into slavery in Egypt.

/In this way, hatred and jealousy is evil, for it leads to murder. /Song of Songs 8:6 /It says, jealousy is unyielding as the grave. /Jealousy and hatred in the heart ultimately

leads to death.

/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.

/Jesus showed us the perfect example of sacrificial love. /The Lord loved us and gave His life in order to save us. /We, who have received this love, must love others with the spirit of martyrdom so that we may save souls.

/The early fathers of faith laid down their lives to pay back the love of Christ. /Pastor Jeremiah Thomas of England brought the gospel to Korea, /and was martyred in Pyongyang after preaching the gospel.

/The deacon Stephen was also martyred for preaching the gospel. /The majority of Jesus' disciples were sacrificial martyrs to God. /Jesus became a kernel of wheat, and produced great fruit through His death.

/In this way, the blood of martyrs gives birth to the advancement of the gospel. /When we go forward in life with the spirit of martyrdom, many lives will come back to life.

/We must not think that to have faith is to believe in Jesus, be saved, and receive eternal life. /Our faith must spread the gospel to others. /This is what we are doing now.

/Faith to preach the gospel to others is most valuable, rewarding, and eternal. /What is the greatest love in the world? /Is it to feed the flesh and heal illnesses? /It is to preach the gospel and save souls.

/Jesus healed the sick and performed many miracles. /His goal was to bring people to believe in Christ, who is life. /The apostle Paul said he had an obligation to the gospel. /He said, "Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!"

/He said that he was innocent of the blood of all men. /We must also follow the example of the Lord and show the love of Christ to many others.

/Verses 17-18. /If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

/Here it tells us to not love with words but with actions. /True love is to see one's brother in need and have pity on him, then love with actions. /Precious love is one that loves with actions and in truth, not with words or tongue.

/It is not receiving help from others, but helping others. /These people are blessed people. /Acts 20:35 /The Good Samaritan was a true neighbor by helping a man who had been robbed.

/The priest taught and emphasized love, /yet, in actuality he failed to put love into action. /The Samaritan became a man of love who loved with actions. /What kind of people are we?

/We must be like the Samaritan who showed love with actions. /Anyone can love with words. /We must follow the Samaritan's example in showing true love in real situations.

/We must put love into action by helping our brothers. /We must be people who are able to give what is valuable to us, to others. /We must be able to give our time and materials for other souls. /This is the holy and true love that Jesus showed us.

/Words and actions must correspond with each other. /An upright person is one whose words and actions correspond with each other. /We, who have received love, must put the Lord's love into action before our families, neighbors, and churches.

/Whoever does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God. /4:20. /Jesus said, "whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

/We must know that our brothers and sisters have been sent by Jesus, and we must love them. /This is neither love of the flesh nor love of man. /This is a spiritual and holy love that we are to put into action.

/There are many around us who are in need of a touch of love. /We must be able to give to others the love we have received. /We must first love in our families. /We must also love at work and love our neighbors.

/We must especially put love into action in the church. /Then the church will become heaven. /It will become a place that brings joy to people. /God will be glorified.

/Verses 19-20. /This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

/Believers belong to the truth when they love their brothers. /Their hearts will be at rest in God's presence and we will be shameless. /People of love participate in God's work of salvation, and the truth works in their hearts.

/They will be free of guilt or shame in their hearts and will gain confidence before the Lord. /However, those who do not love will be reproached by God, who knows everything. /They will be shamed before the Lord, and will be guilty in conscience.

/Those who truly love his brothers will gain confidence, /yet, those who do not love will be shameful in their hearts and will feel guilt. /When we feel this way, we must know that God is reprimanding us and we must repent.

/Verses 21-22. /Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before

God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.

/Those who love will receive from God what we ask for in prayer. /This is because we obey God's commands and do what pleases God. /There is a way to ask and receive what we ask for.

/That is to make sure there is nothing to be reprimanded of in our hearts. /We must put love into action in our relationship with both God and with others. /Another way is to do what pleases God. /John 15:7

/We will enjoy true freedom and liberation when we obey God's Word in the truth.

/Here we will conclude the fifth lecture on 1 John. /Thank you.