



THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR FAITH

#3 OF SERIES
ON I JOHN

I. SPIRITUAL GROWTH CHALLENGE

1 John 2:12-14 *I write to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name. I write to you, fathers, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one.*

I write to you, dear children, because you have known the Father. I write to you, fathers, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God lives in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

I. SPIRITUAL GROWTH CHALLENGE

(a) Courageous Faith:

- Assurance of forgiveness
- Forgiven because Jesus paid the price
- Second-guessing your forgiveness robs you of your courage.
- Knowing Him, the One you belong to, is both powerful and eternal

I. SPIRITUAL GROWTH CHALLENGE

(b) Love for the Word of God:

- Word and Spirit operate together
- Word of God gives strategies

I. SPIRITUAL GROWTH CHALLENGE

(c) Overcome the Evil One:

- Word of God lives IN you
- Word of God is treasured in our heart

2. LIFE'S CHALLENGE

1 John 2:15-17 *Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.*



2. LIFE'S CHALLENGE (THREE AREAS OF TEMPTATION)

(a) Cravings / gratification of the flesh

- “Turn stone into bread...”

(b) Lust for power

“I will give you all the nations’ authority and splendour...”

(c) Boasting

“Come on, Jesus... throw yourself off this temple ... show us what you can do....”

2. LIFE'S CHALLENGE

1John 2:17 *The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.*

3. FAITHFULNESS CHALLENGE

1 John 2:18-19 *Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.*

3. FAITHFULNESS CHALLENGE

- How do we handle opposition simply for being a Christian?
- We are told to expect it – so be prepared

3. FAITHFULNESS CHALLENGE

- How do we handle the pain of seeing professing believer walk away from Christ?
- One group allowed love of world rob them of potential
- Other group has become ANTI-Christ.

3. FAITHFULNESS CHALLENGE

1 John 2:22 *Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist – he denies the Father and the Son.*

4. SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

- Name “antichrist” (anti-anointed) only used in 1 & 2 John
- Anointing used to set apart... for God’s service

Acts 10:38 ...*How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how He went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with Him.*

4. SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

1 John 2:27 *As for you, the anointing you received from Him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as His anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit – just as it has taught you, remain in Him.*

4. SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

1 John 2:27 *As for you, the anointing you received from Him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as His anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit – just as it has taught you, remain in Him.*

- ON us (filling)
- IN us (born again)

4. SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

- The anointing you received will remain.
- You have been born again, and sealed and filled with Holy Spirit
- Don't let doubt or love for the world rob you.
- *"...anointing is real, not counterfeit – just as it has taught you, remain in Him."*