

THE COMPOSITION OF CONFIDENCE
1 JOHN

CONFIDENCE IN

KNOWLEDGE

WHAT YOU HEARD FROM THE BEGINNING
(2:3-27)

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW CHRIST (2:3-17)

If We Keep His Commandments (vv. 3-6)

- The test – (v. 3) – keep His commandments.
 - If you know Him, you know He has no fellowship with sin (1:5).
 - If you know Him, you know acting outside of His law is sin (3:4).
 - If you know Him, you will be keeping His law/commandments.

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW CHRIST (2:3-17)

If We Keep His Commandments (vv. 3-6)

- The test – (v. 3) – keep His commandments.
- The lie – (v. 4) – I know Him without keeping His commandments (cf. 1:6, 8, 10) (cf. Matthew 7:21-27)
- To love Him – (v. 5) – keeping His word.
 - “*By this we know that we are in Him*” – (v. 6) (cf. John 15:1-4, 7)

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW CHRIST (2:3-17)

If the New Commandment is True in Us (vv. 7-11)

- Love of God (v. 5) is inseparable from love of man, especially our brethren (cf. Matthew 22:36-40).
- The Old Commandment – (v. 7) – to walk as He walked, i.e. love as He loved.
 - An old command brought forward – Matthew 22:39; Leviticus 19:18; Romans 13:8-10; James 2:8
 - A fundamental part of following Christ – cf. Mark 12:32-34

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW CHRIST (2:3-17)

If the New Commandment is True in Us (vv. 7-11)

- The New Commandment (vv. 8-11)
 - Epitomized in Jesus and His disciples – (v. 8) (cf. John 13:14-15, 34-35) – “*true in Him and in you*”
 - Incompatibility between hate and light – (vv. 9-10)
 - The consuming nature of darkness – (v. 11) – such a fundamental misunderstanding of God wrecks one’s spiritual sense of direction.

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW CHRIST (2:3-17)

If We Overcome the World (vv. 12-17)

- When His commandments are kept, and we live in love we can be assured we have overcome – (vv. 12-14)

Levels of Spiritual Maturity

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| Children (new converts) | Sins forgiven, know the Father |
| Fathers (most mature) | Know Him from the beginning |
| Young Men (mature, battle tested) | Overcome the wicked one through strength of abiding word |

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW CHRIST (2:3-17)

If We Overcome the World (vv. 12-17)

- When His commandments are kept, and we live in love we can be assured we have overcome – (vv. 12-14)
- Be warned! Loving God is incompatible with loving the world – (vv. 15-17) (cf. James 4:4)

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW THE TRUTH (2:18-27)

If We Hold to the Truth When Others Depart (vv. 18-23)

- “*the last hour*” – known based on coming “*antichrists*” (opposed to Christ; cf. **Philippians 3:18-19**)
 - Time warned about concerning a coming apostasy (cf. **1 Timothy 4:1; Jude 17-18**)
- A concerning difference (vv. 20-21) – claim of higher knowledge than what we have. Are we wrong? NO! “*you know all things*”

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW THE TRUTH (2:18-27)

If We Hold to the Truth When Others Depart (vv. 18-23)

- The consequence of the difference – (vv. 22b-23) – their opposition to truth forfeits fellowship with God.
- The correct conclusion – (v. 19) – their departure from truth does not reflect poorly on you, but them! (cf. 1 Cor. 11:19)
 - When we stick to what has been true when others depart, we know we know the truth – Acts 2:42; Gal. 1:6-9; 2 Thess. 2:15; Heb. 13:8-9

KNOWING THAT WE KNOW THE TRUTH (2:18-27)

If What We Heard from the Beginning Abides in Us (vv. 24-27)

- Don't fight or resist what has been true all along just because someone claims to have some "new truth" – (vv. 24-25)
 - Right doctrine imperative for fellowship (v. 24)
 - Right doctrine imperative for salvation (v. 25)
- Don't be deceived by the arrogant claim of others to know better than the truth you know is already established – (vv. 26-27)

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