

# FIRST JOHN 1:5 – 2:2

*“If guilt returns, his power may be proved again and again. There is no fear that all my daily slips and shortcoming will not be graciously removed by this precious blood.”*

*C. H. Spurgeon comments on 1 John 1:7*

**Big Point:** GOD IS LIGHT and walking as children of the light results in an understanding of the reality of sin, fellowship with God and others, and a desire to share the gospel with the world.

## ONE PRIMARY ERROR

When we say we have fellowship with God but continue to walk in darkness, we are in fact lying in both word and deed. Light and darkness cannot coexist and neither can God and sin.

## TWO DIAGNOSTIC QUESTIONS

1. We HAVE no sin
  - a. We are deceiving ourselves
  - b. We are not abiding in God’s truth
  
2. We HAVE NOT sinned
  - a. We deny the very premise of the Gospel
  - b. Thereby impugn God’s nature as deceitful and accuse him of lying

## THE REMEDY

1:7 | Walk in the Light

*Ask God to cultivate in your own life a desire for holiness.*

1:9 | Confess Our Sins

*Reject any tendency toward self-righteousness and judgmentalism*

2:1 | Christ our advocate and propitiation for sin

*Rejoice in the good news of the gospel that Jesus Christ has made atonement*

*Return thanks to God that Jesus himself is your advocate before God*

*Remember that Jesus is the atonement for the sins of the whole world*

## **1 John 1:5-2:2** Christian Standard Bible (CSB)

### Fellowship with God

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light, and there is absolutely no darkness in him. <sup>6</sup> If we say, “We have fellowship with him,” and yet we walk in darkness, we are lying and are not practicing the truth. <sup>7</sup> If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say, “We have no sin,” we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say, “We have not sinned,” we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

**2** My little children, I am writing you these things so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ the righteous one. <sup>2</sup> He himself is the atoning sacrifice<sup>[a]</sup> for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world.

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**Footnotes:**

- a. [2:2](#) Or *the propitiation*