



Gospel of Grace
FELLOWSHIP

1 John 5:20-21

Knowing the True God

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September 17, 2017

True Christian Knowledge

1 John 5:20a (LEB)
And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us **understanding**, in order that we may know the one who is true...

- We have the truth--not Satan's deception
- Our knowledge is cognitive and relational
- This saving knowledge is God's gift of grace in His Son

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The True God

1 John 5:20b (LEB)
and we are in the one who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. This one is the true God and eternal life.

- "This one" refers to Jesus Christ
- This is in contrast to the world (vs 19)
- "The true" is found 3X in verse 20
- Eternal life as God's glorious promise is found only in the Son!

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We Know That...

- God keeps us so that we do not fall into lawlessness (1 John 5:18)
- We are in God's domain not Satan's (1 John 5:19)
- We know the true God and have eternal life (1 John 5:20)

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Guard Against Idols

1 John 5:21 (LEB)
Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

- "Guard" is imperative
- Jesus "guarded" His disciples (John 17:12)
- This implies diligence and effort
- The draw of idols is incessant
- We have valid confidence in God's promises but there is danger all around

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LAWLESSNESS 1 John 3:4	ABIDING 1 John 3:6
Sin is lawlessness	No one who abides sins
<p>False Third Categories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jesus is savior but not Lord ▪ Christian but needing 'total surrender' ▪ Christian but has demons ▪ Christian but backslid ▪ Christian but under generational curses ▪ Christian but needing healing of memories ▪ Christian but not Spirit baptized 	
Of the devil (1 John 5:19)	Of God (1 John 5:19)
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 10px;"> Conversion 1 John 3:14 </div> </div>	

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Implications and Applications

- God's gracious work changes our thinking
- God's work in Christ fulfills the new covenant promise
- Though we are safe in Christ, we must always be on guard

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Reject Hostile Reasoning

Colossians 1:21 (ESV)

And you, who once were alienated and **hostile in mind**, doing evil deeds,

- Those in Satan's domain are hostile to Biblical reasoning
- Believers are removed from this domain and must learn to think differently
- Change of domain and reasoning leads to change in behavior

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God Changed Our Status

Colossians 1:22 (LEB)

but now you have been reconciled by his physical body through death, to **present you holy and blameless** and above reproach before him,

- From alienated to reconciled
- Through Christ's atoning death
- To be presented blameless before God's judgment seat

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A New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:33 (NASB)
 “But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” declares the LORD, “I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

- Verse 31 called this a “new covenant”
- Verse 32 contrasts it with the Mosaic covenant

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Hebrews Cites Jeremiah

Hebrews 8:10 (ESV)
 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: **I will put my laws into their minds**, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

- “Minds” here is *dianoia* as in 1 John 5:20
- See Hebrews 8:7-10; Hebrews 10:16, 17 to understand the implications

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Safe But Always On Guard

1Timothy 6:20, 21a (NASB)
 O Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called “knowledge,” for by professing it some have swerved from the faith.

- “Guard” is imperative
- The “deposit” is the truth given by Christ and His apostles
- “contradictions” is Gr. “*antithesis*”

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