

The bigger Context

4:27-17

Inheritance in relation to sin:

1. A previously established reality holds true:

Whatever John communicates after this point, it will not change this reality

1 John 1:8-2:1 (NKJV)

a If we say that we have no **sin**, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our **sins**, He is faithful and just to forgive us our **sins** and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not **sinned**, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not **sin**. And if anyone **sins**, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

abides?

3531 **μὲν** (μέν); 9b, 2 = 5tr 3506; TONT 4:594-1. LN 85:55 stay, remain, abide (Ac 27:31); 2. LN 85:60 wait for, remain in a place or

1 John 3:1-24 (NKJV)

Behold what manner of **love** the Father has bestowed on us that we should be called **children of God**! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

2 Beloved, now we are **children of God**; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Addressing believers he teaches how to accomplish this purification motivated by hope

From the surface reading it may look as if John is saying that a Christian doesn't **sin**

4 Whoever commits **sin** also commits lawlessness, and **sin** is lawlessness.

5 And you know that He was manifested to take away our **sins** and in Him there is no **sin**.

6 Whoever **abides** in Him does not **sin**. Whoever **sins** has neither seen Him nor known Him.

abide

is not a positional term or a judicial term,

It is a **Relational** term.

So important to understand. It is a relational concept.

abide in Him

is a major theme in His Explanation of what it means to

Positionally: we are in Christ when we were saved!

Relationally: we abide in Christ when we stay in fellowship and continue in his word!

Fruit takes time to grow

Fruit is evidence of maturity not a sign of growth. A lot of growth takes place before fruit begins to appear.

"Abiding in him" is related to the ongoing growth process in our life

Fruit occurs because there's relationship between the branch and the vine

The Upper Room Discourse
Jesus's discourse on the **vine**

John 15:4-10 (NKJV)

Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear **fruit** of itself, unless it abides in the **vine**, neither can you, unless you **abide** in Me.

5 I am the **vine**, you are the branches. He who **abides** in Me, and I in him, bears much **fruit**, for without Me you can do nothing.

6 If anyone does not **abide** in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

7 If you **abide** in Me, and My words **abide** in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much **fruit**, as you will be My disciples.

9 As the Father **loved** Me, I also have **loved** you, **abide** in My **love**.

10 If you keep My commandments, you will **abide** in My **love**, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and **abide** in His **love**.

Paul uses the phrase "In Christ" to describe our position

While Jesus and John is also using as Jesus did, relationally

1 John 2:28 (NKJV)

28 And now, little ones, **abide** in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

8 He who **sins** is of the devil, for the devil has **sinned** from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

9 Whoever has been born of God does not **sin**, for His seed remains in him, and he cannot **sin**, because he has been born of God.

10 It is the children of God and the children of the devil who are marked. Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the who does not **love** his brother.

11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should **love** one another.

12 Not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

13 Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you.

14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we **love** the brethren. He who does not **love** his brother **abides** in death.

15 Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life **abiding** in him.

16 By this we know **love**, because he laid down his life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the **love** of God **abide** in him?

18 My little children, let us not **love** in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.

20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

23 And this is His commandment, that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and **love** one another, as He gave us commandment.

24 Now **he who keeps His commandments abides in Him** and He in him. And by this we know that He **abides** in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

That is potential, not actual

He's talking about intimate fellowship here

John 17:20-23 (NKJV)

20 I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;

21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

23 I in them, and You in Me, that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

He is praying for the church, for the disciples

Positionally, once we believe in Christ we are in union with Christ, and there is a unity in the body of Christ positionally—we are all one in Christ.

So why would He pray that we could all be one, if we are already actually one positionally?