

The Real God in a Fake World

Text: 1 John 5:18-21 (NLT)

Victory Over Sin & Satan:

When you know God, idolatry loses its grip on you.

God's children do not make a habit of sinning (1 John 5:18 NLT).

- John is not saying that believers do not sin, because they do (1 John 1:5-8). In these verses, John refers to missing the mark, not to a lifestyle of sin.
- Those born of God have His DNA, so they cannot deliberately persist in sinful patterns (1 John 3:6-10).
- Jesus keeps us by protecting us from the enemy's schemes (John 10:28-29).
- It is Christ's protection over our lives that enables us to overcome.

Our identity is in Christ, not in the world (1 John 5:19 NLT).

- Our new nature is evidence that we belong to God (2 Cor. 5:17).
- We are members of a new kingdom (Col. 1:13; Phil. 3:20).
- The world lies under the dominion of Satan (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2; 6:12).
- Those who are not born again live under Satan's control. This is why they mock and persecute Christians.

Knowing The True God:

Jesus came so that we may know God in a personal and intimate way (John 17:3; 1 John 5:20 NLT).

- Knowing and growing in our relationship with God should be our top priority as Christ's disciples.
- How can I deepen my knowledge of God? – Spend time daily reading the Bible and allow it to transform your life (John 1:1; Matt. 4:4).
- The Word of God nourishes your soul, and it is impossible to know God without His Word (Jer. 15:16; Ps. 119:103).

There are many false gods, but only one true God, who is supreme over all (1 Cor. 8:5-6; Deut. 10:17; Is. 45:5).

- Jesus is the Son of God, the only true God, and the source of eternal life (1 Tim. 2:5).

- Believing that Jesus has come in the flesh and that He is the Son of God is evidence that a person belongs to God (1 John 4:2-3; 15).

John instructs God's children to avoid idols (1 John 5:21 NLT).

- Anything we put before the Lord is an idol.
- Loving God more than anything, including ourselves, and finding our identity in Christ are the keys to overcoming idolatry (Mark 12:30; Acts 17:28).
- As Christians, we are called to walk in the Spirit (Gal. 5:16).

Call to Action:

1. If you sin, acknowledge it, seek forgiveness, and resolve to avoid it in the future.
2. Discover your identity in Christ, not through the world.
3. Strengthen your connection with Jesus.
4. Eliminate all idols from your life.