

## The First Epistle of John

# 11

## Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

## Morning Study

This morning we focus on the second section of John's first epistle. This section can be divided into three sub-sections:

### Read 1 John 2:7-11

- ☞ What was the new-old command that John's readers had heard from the beginning? (2:7-8) (note **John 13:34-35**).
- ☞ Who or what is the true light that is already shining? (2:8) (note **John 8:12**).
- ☞ Who is it that John says is in darkness? (2:9).
- ☞ Who is it that John says is in the light? (2:10).
- ☞ Whereas the "brother [who] lives in the light" has "nothing in him to make him stumble" it is obvious that the one who "walks around in the darkness" *does* have something in him that will make him stumble. What do you think that stumbling block is? (2:10-11).
- ☞ Why does the one who hates his brother not know where he is going? (2:11).

### Read 1 John 2:12-14

- ☞ What, in John's mind, are the three broad groupings that his readers fell into? (2:12-14).
- ☞ Why does John write to his "dear children"? (2:12-14).
- ☞ Why does John write to the "fathers"? (2:13-14).
- ☞ Why does John write to the "young men"? (2:13-14).
- ☞ Why does John call the "young men" strong? (2:14).

### Read 1 John 2:15-17

- ☞ What is John's specific command in 2:15?
- ☞ What happens if a person loves this world? (2:15).
- ☞ Why does John say not to love this world? (2:16-17).
- ☞ Who is the one who lives forever? (2:17).

# Memory Verse

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!