FIRST JOHN

CHAPTER 1

1. **The One was continuously existing from [the] beginning. The One we have listened to, and still hear; the One we have seen, and now yet perceive with our eyes** (by our eyes; in our eyes); **the One we gazed upon as a public spectacle** (as an exhibit in a theater) **and our hands handled** (felt about for and touched) **– groping around the Word of the Life**

(or: the Logos, which is the Life; the thought which pertains to life; the Idea from the Life; the message which has the character and qualities of the Life; the Reason which belongs to the Life; [note: I have treated *ho* as the definite article in the first four phrases here and in vs. 3; many treat it as a neuter relative and render it: That which; or: the first phrase could read: He Who continued being from Headship])

2. **And the Life was** (or: is) **manifested** (made visible; brought into the clear light) **and we have seen, and still observe, and are repeatedly testifying** (bearing witness; giving evidence) **and in a message are constantly reporting to you folks the Life which has the character and qualities of the Age** (or: the life pertaining to the ages; eonian life) **which Certain [Life] was continuously existing [oriented and proceeding] toward** (or: was face to face with) **the Father, and was** (or: is) **manifested** (made visible) **to us** (in us; by us; for us).

3. **The One we have seen, and still now see, and we have heard, and now continue hearing, we are also constantly reporting to you, to the end that you, too, may be continuously having fellowship** (or: would be progressively holding partnership and enjoying common participation) **with us. And yet, our common participation** (fellowship; partnership) **[is] with the Father, even with His Son** (or: and with the Son which is Him), **Jesus Christ.**

4. **And we ourselves are proceeding in writing these things, to the end that our joy** [other MSS: your joy] **would continually exist having been filled up and then continue full.**

5. **And this is the message** (or: And it is this message) **which we have heard – and still hear – from Him, and we are continually bringing back tidings** (or: announcing again) **to you people that God continuously exists being** (or: is) **Light, and within Him a darkness does not exist – not even one.**

6. **If we should up and say that we are continuously having fellowship** (constantly enjoying common participation and partnership) **with Him and yet may be habitually walking round about** (= living our lives) **within the Darkness** [note: figure of ignorance, or the previous way of seeing reality; the life before the Breath-effect vibrated over us], **we are constantly lying** (speaking

falsely) **and are not in the habit of doing the truth** (or: are not constructing, practicing or producing reality).
7. **Yet if we keep on walking about** (= continue living your life) **within the midst of, and in union with, the Light, as He exists** (or: is) **within the Light, we constantly have fellowship** (hold common participation and enjoy partnership) **with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, keeps continually cleansing us** (or: is progressively rendering us pure) **from every sin** (or: from all error, failure, deviation, mistake, and from every [successive] shot that is off target [when it occurs]).

8. **If we should up and say that we have no failure** (or: that we do not constantly hold sin or possess error), **we are continuously leading ourselves astray** (or: deceiving ourselves and driving ourselves off the Path), **and the Truth is not** (or: reality does not exist) **within us.**
9. **If it would be our habit to confess** (admit; avow; say the same thing as; speak in accordance with; or: would continue in agreement [about]) **our sin** (our failure; our error; our mistake), **He is constantly faithful and just** (fair; in accord with the Way pointed out and in right relationship; rightwised), **to the end that He would at once send away for us** (or: dismiss or pardon and cause to flow away in us) **the sins** ([some MSS add: our] failures, mistakes and deviations) **and then would cleanse** [other MSS: He will cleanse] **us from all injustice** (all that is contrary to the Way pointed out; every unrighteousness; all unfairness, inequity and unrighteous relationships).
10. **If we would say that we have not failed to hit the target** (or: sinned; made a mistake; erred; deviated), **and exist thus, we habitually make Him a liar** (one who utters falsehood), **and His Word** (Thought; Idea; message; Logos) **does not exist** (or: is not) **within us.**

CHAPTER 2

1. **My little children, I am writing these things to you** (or: for you) **to the end that you may not fail to hit the target** (deviate from the goal; sin). **And if anyone should at some point fail** (or: suddenly commit sin, make a mistake or deviate), **we constantly have One called alongside to help, give relief and guide us toward the Father** (or: we continuously possess a Paraclete, face to face with the Father)**: Jesus Christ, the One in accord with the Way pointed out** (or: the Just One; the Righteous One; the Fair One who is in right relationship with all; the Rightwised One; the right one).
2. **And He Himself exists continually being a cover around our mistakes and errors, sheltering us from their effects so that we can be in peaceful and rightwised relationships** (or: being the act by which our sins and failures are made ineffective, effecting conciliation [to us]), **yet not only around those pertaining to us** (or: having their source in us), **but further, even around the whole ordered System** (dominating world of culture, economy, religion and government; or: cosmos; adorned universe; or: = all mankind)**!**

3. **And within this we repeatedly know by experience and continue to recognize that we have come to know Him and now experience Him intimately and with insight, if we may be continuously watchful and would habitually keep** (guard; observe; maintain) **His implanted and internalized goals** (impartations of the finished product within; inward directives).
4. **The person who keeps on saying, "I have come to know Him by experience," and is not habitually keeping** (observing) **His implanted goals** (impartations of the finished product within; inward directives), **is a liar** (exists being one who speaks falsehood) **and God's Truth** (the Reality of God; the Genuine Actuality which is God) **is not** (or: does not exist) **within this one.**
5. **Yet whoever may be habitually keeping** (attentively guarding to observe) **His Word** (Thought; Idea; message), **truly** (or: actually; in reality) **within this one God's Love has been perfected and brought to its goal** (or: the love which is God has been matured and finished). **In this we constantly know experientially that we continuously exist within the midst of and in union with Him.**
6. **The person habitually speaking [thus, as though] to be constantly abiding** (remaining; dwelling) **within Him, is continuously under obligation himself also to go on walking about** (= behaving and conducting his life) **just as That One** (or: on the level and in the sphere as He) **walked** (or: walks; = lives His life).

7. **Beloved ones, I am not writing an implanted goal** (impartation of the finished product within; inward directive) **new in kind or quality to you** (or: for you), **but rather an old implanted goal** (impartation of the finished product within; inward directive) **which you folks have continually had** (or: were habitually holding) **from [the] beginning. The old implanted goal** (impartation of the finished product within; inward directive) **is the Word** (Thought; Idea; message) **which you folks heard** (or: attentively hear [and thus obey])**!**

8. **Again,** (or: Once more) **I am writing to you an implanted goal** (impartation of the finished product within; inward directive) **new in kind and quality, which is** (exists being) **true** (actual; real; genuine) **within Him, and within you** [other MSS: us], **that the Darkness** [note: figure of the ignorance of the prior system and realm] **is progressively being caused to pass by, and the True Light** (or: = real knowledge and understanding; = Light of the new Day) **is already** (before now) **progressively shining and appearing.**
9. **The person who keeps on speaking [thus, as though] to be within the Light, and yet is constantly hating** (or: regarding with ill-will) **his brother** (or: = fellow believer), **is a liar and continues being within the Darkness until the present moment.**
10. **The person habitually loving his brother constantly abides** (remains; dwells; = has his home) **within and in union with the Light, and there exists no snare** (trap-spring; stick upon which bait is put; cause for stumbling) **within him.**

11. **But the person habitually hating** (or: repeatedly having ill-will towards) **his brother** (or: = fellow believer or fellowman) **constantly exists within the Darkness, and within the Darkness continuously walks about, and is not aware** (or: knows not) **where he is progressively departing** (or: habitually going away), **because the Darkness blinds** (or: blinded) **his eyes.**

12. **I am writing to you, little children** (or: young born ones), **that the failures** (mistakes; sins; deviations) **have been sent away** (or: caused to flow away; put away; forgiven) **for you through His Name** (or: because of the Name which is Him)**!**

13. **I am writing to you, fathers, that you have by experience known, and now have intimate insight of, the One [Who is] from [the] beginning** (or: the Original One). **I am writing to you, young men** (or: youths), **that you have overcome** (conquered; are victorious over) **the one bringing a gush of misery** (or: the useless, unprofitable situation; the wicked man; the evil one; the bad situation or sorry plight; the worthless man; the pernicious and knavish fellow; the one causing anguish and painful labor; the condition full of harassed toil and annoying perils; the base fellow) **– and this now exists as a decided victory.**

14. **I write to you, little boys and girls, or servants, who might be hit for discipline** (or: those of the age for being educated and trained), **that you have by experience known the Father; I write to you, fathers, that you have by experience known, and now have insight into, the One [Who is] from [the] beginning** (or: the Original One). **I write to you, young men** (or: youths), **that you are** (or: exist being) **constantly strong, and God's Word** (Logos; Thought; Idea; message) **continuously dwells** (abides; remains) **within you and you have overcome** (conquered; are the victor over) **the one bringing a gush of misery** (see parenthetical expansion in 13, above).

15. **You folks should not be habitually loving** (or, as an imperative: Stop constantly loving; or, as an indicative: You do not now love) **the world** (the controlling ordered System of culture, religion, economy and government), **neither** (or: not even) **the things within the world** (ordered system). **If anyone is in the habit of** (or: keeps on) **loving the world** (ordered system), **the Father's** [other MSS: God's] **Love** (or: the love which the Father has; the Love which is the Father) **does not exist within him,**
16. **because everything within the world** (ordered System) **– the flesh's over-desire** (full passion of the alienated human nature; lust of the estranged self; earnest wants of the false persona that was conformed to the System), **and the eyes' over-desire, and the arrogant** (haughty; presumptuous) **ostentation pertaining to living** (= the biological and sociological life we live), **is not out of the Father as a source** (or: does not proceed from the Father), **but rather is continuously forth from out of the world** (the ordered System of society, culture and religion),

17. **and the world** (ordered System of religion, society, culture, economy and government) **is progressively** (or: constantly; repeatedly) **being caused to pass along** (pass by; pass away), **as well as it's over-desire** (full passion; earnest wants; lust), **yet the person constantly doing** (or: performing) **God's will** (intent; purpose; desire) **remains** (abides; dwells) **on into the Age** (= the time and sphere characterized by the Messiah).

18. **O undeveloped ones or folks of the age to be educated** (or: servant, little boys and little girls who might be hit in training and for discipline), **it is continuously** (or: presently; repeatedly) **a last hour** (= an *eschaton* of the Day, or the closing moment of the age), **and according as you hear** (or: heard) **that an antichrist** (or: anti-anointing; that which is instead of, or in the place of, Christ or the Anointing) **repeatedly comes** [other MSS: the anti-anointing (or: antichrist) continuously comes], **even now many anti-anointings** (or: antichrists; many things or people taking the place of Christ or stand in opposition to the Anointing) **have been born and are here** (or: have come into existence and are at large), **from which fact** (or: whence) **we constantly know by experience that it continues being a last hour** (= a closing moment [of the age]).
19. **They came** (or: come; or: went) **out from us, but they were not existing out of us** (or: they were not [a part] of us), **for if they were out of us, they would have remained** (dwelt; abided) **with us; but [this was] to the end that they may be manifested** (caused to appear) **that they are not all out of us.**
20. **And further, you folks continue having the effects of an anointing from the set-apart One** (or: the Holy One), **and so you all have seen and are aware** (or: know; perceive; [other MSS: and you know all {those} folks]).

21. **I do not write to you because you do not know the Truth** (or: Reality), **but rather because you do know it, and because every lie is not forth from the Truth** (or: even that all falsehood is not [coming] from Reality).
22. **Which one is** (exists continuously being) **the liar, if not the person habitually denying** (repeatedly disowning; = constantly turning his back), **[saying] that Jesus is not the Christ** (the Anointed One; the Messiah)**? This person is** (exists being) **the anti-anointing** (or: anti-anointed person; the one taking the place of and being in the opposite position of the anointing and of Christ)**: the one habitually denying** (constantly turning his back on) **the Father and the Son.**
23. **Everyone continuously denying or turning his back on the Son does not even have** (or: not even is he possessing; neither holds) **the Father. The one habitually speaking like the Son** (or: the one continuously confessing and avowing the Son; the one habitually speaking in accord with or saying the same thing as the Son) **constantly has** (holds; possesses) **the Father.**

24. **As for you folks, let what you heard from [the] beginning be continuously remaining** (abiding; dwelling; staying) **within you. When** (or: If; If at any time) **that which you heard from [the] beginning would remain** (should abide; can dwell; may stay and make its home) **within you, you also will be**

remaining (abiding; dwelling; staying) **within the Son, even within the midst of and in union with the Father!** (or: you will dwell both in the Son and in the Father).

25. **And this is** (continues being) **the Promise which He Himself promised** (promises) **to us** [other MSS: to you]**: the Life of the Age** (or: eonian life; life into the un-seeable future; age-lasting life; Life having the character and qualities of the Age; life pertaining to the ages; Life on through the ages). [note: in Acts 1:4-5 the "Promise" was the Holy Spirit]

26. **I write these things** [other MSS: But I wrote these things] **to you about the folks constantly trying to lead you astray** (or: periodically causing you to wander; repeatedly deceiving you),
27. **and the effects of the anointing which you folks received** (or: receive) **from Him constantly remains** (abides; dwells; makes its home) **within you folks, and you continually have no use** (or: you are not constantly having a need) **that anyone should keep on teaching you** (or: be repeatedly giving you a course of lessons; coach you; instruct you), **but rather, just as the effects of His anointing is continuously and progressively teaching you about everything** (or: concerning all things), **and is continuously true, and real, and is not a lie, even according as it taught** (or: as He instructs) **you: you are continuously abiding** (remaining; dwelling; being at home) **within and in union with Him** (or, reading as an imperative: be constantly remaining, abiding, staying and dwelling within the midst of Him).

28. **And now** (at the present time; in this moment), **little children** (born-ones; bairns), **you are continuously** (or, reading as imperative: keep on) **dwelling** (abiding; remaining; staying) **within and in union with Him, to the end that if** (or: whenever) **He** (or: it) **may be manifested** (made visible and apparent) **we can** (or: may; should; would) **have boldness** (freedom in speaking associated with citizenship; complete outspoken bluntness) **and may not feel or receive shame** (disgrace; dishonor; humiliation) **from Him, within His presence** (or: may not be shamed away from Him in the midst of His presence).

29. **If you folks may have come to see** (or: perceive), **and should now know, that He is continuously One who constantly lives in accord to the Way pointed out** (is right, just, fair and in right relationship), **you continue to know by experience that everyone habitually doing** (practicing; constructing; accomplishing; making; producing) **fair and equitable dealing** (that which is right and in accord with the Way pointed out; justice; righteousness) **has been born and now exists being a born-one** (or: now stands begotten), **from out of the midst of Him** (and: with Him as the Source).

CHAPTER 3

1. **You people at once consider** (look and perceive) **what kind of** (what sort of; what unusual, foreign or exotic) **love the Father has given to** (or: in; for) **us** [other MSS: you], **which we now have as a gift, to the end that we can** (may; should; would) **be called** (named) **God's children** (born-ones; bairns)**! And we are! Because of this** (On account of this; Therefore) **the System** (the world; the ordered arrangement of culture, religion, economy and government) **is not habitually having experiential or intimate knowledge of us** (does not know or have insight into us [other MSS: you]), **because it did not know** (or: it does not have an intimate, experiential knowledge of) **Him.**

2. **Beloved ones, now** (at the present time) **we continuously exist being God's children** (born-ones; bairns from the standpoint of origin), **and it has not yet been made visible** (or: it is not yet apparent or manifested) **what we will be. We have perceived, and thus know** (or: are aware) **that if it** (or: He) **should be** (or: whenever it {or: He} may be) **made visible, apparent and manifested, [then] folks like to Him** (like-ones to Him; ones like Him; people resembling Him) **we will be, because we will see and perceive Him just as** (according and exactly as; in the manner that) **He constantly exists** (or: He is).
3. **So everyone who continuously has** (or: habitually holds) **this expectation** (or: hope) **[resting] upon Him is [by this] constantly** (repeatedly; progressively) **purifying himself, just as** (according as; in the way that) **That One is** (or: exists being) **pure.**

4. **Everyone constantly practicing** (committing; producing) **failure** (sin; the missing of the target; deviation) **is also constantly practicing lawlessness** (or: habitually commits a lawless act or does the violation of custom), **and the sin** (the failure to hit the target; the deviation) **exists being** (or: is) **the lawlessness** (or: the violation of law or the act apart from custom is the mistake and the error).
5. **You have also perceived, and thus know** (are aware) **that That One was manifested** (made visible) **to the end that He would in a point of time lift up and carry away** (or: sustain, bear and raise up) **the sins** (the failures to hit the target; the mistakes; the deviations; [some MSS: our sins]), **and sin** (failure to hit the target; error; deviation) **does not exist within Him** (or: and in Him is no sin or failure).
6. **Everyone continuously remaining** (dwelling; keeping his residence; abiding; staying) **within and in union with Him is not habitually missing the target** (practicing sin; repeatedly failing in his purpose); **everyone continually failing to hit the target** (habitually sinning) **has neither seen Him, nor come to know Him by intimate experience.**

7. **Little children** (born-ones), **let no one be constantly leading you astray** (misleading or deceiving you); **the one continually doing** (repeatedly practicing; progressively producing) **that which is in accord with the Way pointed out** (the righteousness; the justice; the fairness, equity and life in right relationships) **is** (or: exists being) **just** (in accord with the Way pointed out; righteous; fair; equitable; rightwised; in right relationships), **according as** (just as) **That One is**

just (is in accord with the Way pointed out; is righteous, fair, equitable and offers right relationships).
8. **Yet the person habitually practicing** (repeatedly doing; progressively producing) **the sin** (the failure to hit the target or accomplish his purpose; or: the error; the mistake; the deviation) **is existing from out of the adversary who thrusts-through [with a weapon, or with ill-intent]** (or: = is [operating] from [the influence of] the "devil"), **because this adversary is habitually sinning** (or: repeatedly missing the target; continuously falling short of the goal; constantly deviating from his purpose) **from [the] beginning** (or: from [its] origin). **Into this [situation] was** (or: is) **God's Son manifested and made visible, to the end that He would unbind** (loose; untie; destroy; disintegrate) **the works and actions of the adversary who casts things through the midst of folks.**

9. **Everyone who has been given birth, and is now born, from out of the midst of God is not habitually practicing failure to hit the target** (doing sin; producing error), **because His seed is continuously remaining** (dwelling; abiding) **within him** (or: within Him), **and he is not able** (or: he has no power) **to constantly fail to hit the target** (repeatedly sin; continuously deviate; go on failing), **because he has been born forth from out of God.**

10**. [Both] God's children and the adversary's children are constantly visible** (apparent; manifest) **within this [thing or situation]: everyone not practicing righteousness** (not habitually doing justice; not progressively constructing his life turned in the right direction to accord with the Way pointed out) **as well as the one not continuously loving his brother** (= a believer, or fellowman) **is not existing out of God** (= is not living with God being his source of life and direction),
11. **because this is the message** [other MSS: the promise] **which you heard** (or: hear) **from [the] beginning, to the end that we may habitually** (or: would continuously; could progressively) **love one another –**
12. **not [living] like** (or: not just as) **Cain. He was existing, and continued being, from out of the condition** (or: situation; or: one; thing; = influence) **causing misery and hard labor** (the unprofitable attitude; the worthless mindset; the wicked intent; the toilsome situation; the sorry plight), **and so he slaughtered** (killed by cutting his jugular vein) **his brother. And on what score** (or: for what pleasure) **did he slaughter him? Because his works** (actions) **were gushed with misery and hard labor** (were wicked or evil; were toilsome; were unprofitable and worthless), **but those of his brother [were] ones in accord with the Way pointed out** (just ones; righteous ones; fair and equitable ones; rightwised ones).

13. **Stop marveling** (Cease wondering; Quit being astonished), **brothers, if** (or: since) **the ordered System** (world of culture and religion; or: the estranged system of governmental control) **is constantly hating you** (habitually regarding you with ill-will).

14. **We ourselves have seen, and thus know** (or: are aware), **that we have walked together** (or: proceeded to change, passing from) **out of the Death into the Life, because we are habitually loving the brothers** (= fellow believers; [some MSS: our brothers; {or: = our fellow human beings}]). **The person not habitually loving** [some MSS add: his brothers] **continues remaining** (dwelling; abiding; staying) **within the Death.**
15. **Everyone constantly hating** (or: regarding with ill-will) **his brother constantly exists being a person-slayer** (a murderer), **and has not seen so as to be aware that every person-slayer does not presently have** (or: is not continuously holding) **life having its source in, or having the quality of, the Age** (or: eonian life) **presently remaining within him** (or: continuously dwelling and abiding in union with him).

16. **Within this we have come to know the Love by intimate experience: that That One placed** (or: places; sets; deposited) **His soul over us; we ourselves are also constantly indebted** (obligated) **to place [our] souls over the brothers** (= fellow believers, or, fellow humans; = [God's] family).

17. **But whoever may continuously have the world's means of living** (or: may habitually hold the sustenance of the life pertaining to the ordered System), **and may habitually gaze upon his brother [who is] continuously having a need, and may close shut** (or: would slam and lock) **his intestines** (= his compassions) **away from him, how is God's love dwelling** (abiding; remaining; staying) **within him** (or, reading as a future: how will God's love dwell in him)**?**
18. **Little children** (little born-ones), **we should not be habitually loving in word** (by a word or thought), **nor even in** (or: by) **the tongue, but rather within action** (deed; work) **and truth** (or: reality).

19. **And within this we shall come to know by our own experience that we continuously exist** (or: are) **from out of the midst of the Truth** (Reality), **and before Him** (in front of Him; in His very presence) **we shall persuade** (prevail upon; convince; win over; assure; render tranquil) **our hearts,**
20. **because, even if our heart may continually condemn** (censure; know-down by experience), **God is constantly greater than our heart, and He knows all mankind,** (all people; or: everything; all things) **by intimate experience.**
21. **Beloved ones** [other MSS: Brothers], **if our heart should not be constantly condemning or censuring** [some MSS add: us] (or: would not repeatedly experience negative insights or habitually have knowledge which leads down), **we constantly have freedom in speaking** (boldness from our citizenship) **toward and face to face with God,**
22. **and whatever we may continuously ask** (or: habitually request), **we keep on progressively receiving from Him, because we are regularly keeping** (attentively watching over, guarding and observing) **His implanted goals** (impartations of the finished product within; inward directives) **and are**

constantly doing (performing; constructing; producing) **the things [that are] pleasing and acceptable in His sight** (or: before Him).

23. **And this is His implanted goal** (impartation of the finished product within; inward directive of the end in mind)**: namely that we could, would and should be continuously believing and progressively trusting** [other MSS: would at once place faith and trust] **in and by the Name** (or: constantly loyal to and for the Name; habitually full of faith with the Name) **of His Son, Jesus Christ, and thus should be constantly** (or: habitually; progressively) **loving one another, precisely** (or: accordingly; correspondingly) **as He gave [the] implanted goal** (or: gives an impartation of the finished product within, with an inward directive of the end) **to us, for us and in us.**
24. **And the person habitually watching to attentively keep His implanted goals** (impartations of the finished product within; inward directives) **continuously remains** (dwells; abides; stays) **within and in union with Him, and He, Himself, within and in union with him. And within this we are constantly coming to know by intimate experience that He is continuously abiding** (dwelling; remaining; staying) **within us and in union with us: from out of the Spirit** (or: from the midst of the Breath-effect; forth from the attitude) **which He gives** (or: at one point gave) **to us** (or: in us).

CHAPTER 4

1. **Beloved ones, stop believing** (or: you must not continually believe or trust) **every spirit** (or: expression of some influence; breath-effect; attitude), **but rather, you folks must constantly examine, test and prove the spirits** (influences; attitudes) **to assay** (or: prove) **if they are existing from out of God, because many false prophets have gone** (or: come) **out into the ordered System** (world of culture, government, economy and religion) **and continue there**.
2. **Within this you continually come to know by experience** (or: be progressively becoming acquainted intimately with) **the Spirit of God** (God's Breath-effect, influence and attitude)**: every spirit** (breath-effect; attitude; influence) **which constantly speaks in accord with** (says the same as; speaks like; or: confesses and avows) **Jesus Christ having come and now continuing in flesh** (= in a physical body), **continuously exists being** (or: is) **from out of God** [other MSS: every spirit confessing Jesus Christ to have come in flesh is forth from God],
3. **and every spirit** (influence; attitude; breath) **which is not habitually speaking in accord with** (speaking like; avowing; confessing) **the One, Jesus** [some MSS add: {the} Lord, having come in flesh] **is not out of** (does not originate in) **God. And this** [spirit, expression, or speech which is not in accord with Jesus] **is** (or: continuously exists being) **of the anti-anointing** (or: that which pertains to the antichrist; from something in the place of Christ) **– which you folks have heard that it is constantly** (repeatedly; habitually) **coming, and**

now (at the present time) **exists within the controlling ordered System** (or: is in the world of religion, economy, government and culture) **already** (before now).

4. **Little children** (born ones), **you continuously exist from out of God** (or: you exist with God as your source; you originate your being from God), **and you have conquered** (overcome) **and are now victorious over them, because greater is the One** (or: He) **within you than the one within the ordered System** (the person in union with the world of religion, culture, society, economy and government).
5. **They themselves exist being from out of that ordered System** (or: they exist with the world as their source; they originate their [sense of] being from the System). **On account of this they continually speak from out of the System** (they habitually speak out of the world [as a source and perspective]), **and the ordered System** (world of ideas: culture, religion and education, as well as the control of economy and government) **constantly listens to and hears them.**
6. **We, however, continuously exist** (or: are) **from out of the midst of God. The person habitually and progressively coming to know God by intimate experience is continually hearing us** (or: listening and paying attention to what comes from, or pertains to, us). **He who does not exist from out of God is not hearing** (or: listening to) **us. From out of this we constantly know by intimate experiences the Spirit** (or: spirit; Breath-effect; influence) **of the Truth** (or: of reality), **and the spirit** (influence; breath-effect; attitude) **of wandering** (deception; error; straying).

7. **Beloved ones, we should be continuously loving one another, because love** (or: the Love) **exists continuously** (or: is) **from out of the midst of God, and every one continuously loving has been born, and exists being a born-one, from out of the midst of God, and constantly experiences intimate knowledge of God** (or: comes to know by experiences from God; gains knowledge and insight by the experience which is God).
8. **The one not habitually loving has not come to know God by intimate experience, because God continuously exists being Love** (or: for God is Love).

9. **Within this, God's Love is instantly manifested** (was at one point made visible) **within us** (among us), **in that** (or: because) **God has sent** (dispatched) **His uniquely-born** (or: only-begotten) **Son as a Representative** (Envoy; Emissary) **into the ordered System** (world of society, culture, religion and government), **to the end that we would live** (or: can experience life) **through Him.**
10. **Within this exists** (or: is) **the Love, not that we ourselves have loved** [other MSS: that we ourselves love] **God, but in contrast, that He Himself loves us and sends** (or: loved us and sent) **His Son as a Representative** (Envoy; Emissary)**: a propitiatory covering around our sins** (failures to hit the target; errors; mistakes; deviations).

11. **Beloved ones, since thus** (or: in that manner) **God loves** (or: loved) **us, we also are constantly indebted** (or: under obligation) **to habitually love one another.**

12. **No one** (or: Not even one) **has yet once** (or: ever yet) **gazed upon God as an object in a theater** (as a public spectacle). **If we are** (or: may be) **habitually loving one another, God constantly remains** (dwells, abides) **within us, and His love** (or: the love, which is Him,) **is existing having been brought to its goal and is now matured and perfected within us.**

13. **Within this we are continually knowing by experience that we are constantly remaining** (dwelling; abiding) **within and in union with Him and He Himself within us, because He has given to us from out of His Breath-effect** (or: Spirit).
14. **And we have gazed upon this public situation, and are repeatedly testifying** (giving witness and evidence) **that the Father has sent forth** (dispatched as a Representative) **the Son – [the] Savior of the world** (or: Deliverer of the ordered and controlling System; Restorer of the universe; = the Rescuer and Healer of all humanity).

15. **Whoever may speak in accord** (confess; avow; say like words; say the same thing; agree) **that Jesus exists being God's Son** (or: is continuously the Son which is God), **God continuously dwells** (abides), **remaining in him, and he himself within God.**
16. **And we have come by intimate experience to know and have believed, trusted and are convinced of the Love which God has** (or: holds) **continuously within us.**
God exists continually being Love (God is Love), **and the person continuously remaining** (dwelling; abiding) **within, and in union with, the Love, is continuously remaining** (dwelling; abiding) **within, and in union with, God – and God constantly dwells** (remains; abides) **within him and in union with him.**
17**. Within this the Love has been brought to its goal, been matured and is now perfected with us, to the end that we may continuously have freedom of speech** (the boldness of a citizen to speak publicly without fear of punishment) **within the day of sifting and separation** (distinction and decision; judging; judicial process; administration of justice), **because just as** (correspondingly as; in accord and to the level as) **That One is** (exists continuously being), **we also continuously exist being, within the midst of this ordered System** (world of culture, religion, economy and government).

18. **Fear does not exist within the Love, but rather perfect love** (mature love; love having reached its goal) **repeatedly** (habitually; progressively) **throws the fear outside, because the fear constantly has and holds a pruning** (a curtailment; a checking; restraint; a lopping off – thus, a correction). **But the one**

habitually fearing or dreading has not been perfected (has not been brought to the goal of maturity) **within the Love** (or: in union with love).

19. **We ourselves are** [some MSS add: now] **habitually loving** (or, as a subjunctive: should be constantly loving) **because He Himself first loved** (or: loves) **us.**
20. **If anyone may up and say, "I am constantly loving God," and may be habitually hating** (or: would keep on regarding with ill-will) **his brother, he is a liar** (he exists being a false one). **For the one not habitually loving his brother – whom he has looked at and now sees – he continues being unable** (he has no power) **to be loving God, Whom he has not seen** (or: looked at).
21. **And we continuously hold** (or: have) **this implanted goal** (impartation of the finished product within; inward directive) **from Him, to the end that the person continuously loving God may** (or: should) **also habitually love his brother** (= his fellow believer, or his fellow human being).

CHAPTER 5

1. **Everyone continuously believing and trusting that Jesus is** (or: exists being) **the Christ** (the Anointed One; = the Messiah) **has been brought to birth and is now a born-one** (= is a child; a bairn) **from out of God. And everyone continuously loving the One bearing and giving birth would also** (or: should also) **love the person** (or: the One) **having been born out of Him.**
2. **Whenever we are** (or: may be) **habitually loving God, and then may be habitually doing or performing His implanted goals** (impartations of the finished product within; inward directives), **in this [condition and situation] we progressively come to know by insight and intimate experiences that we are [also] normally loving God's children.**
3. **You see, that we would continuously observe His imparted and implanted goals is itself the Love of God** (or: For this exists being love from God so that we can progressively watch over, keep maintain and guard His interior finished product) **– and His implanted goals** (impartations of the finished product within; inward directives) **are not heavy** (weighty, thus, burdensome) **–**
4. **because everything having been born from out of the midst of God continuously overcomes** (habitually conquers and is progressively victorious over) **the controlling System** (ordered world or religion, culture, economy and government). **And this is the victory** (or: conquest) **at once overcoming** (conquering; victorious over) **the controlling System** (ordered world of religion, culture, economy and government)**: our trust, confidence and faith!**

5. **Now who is the person continuously overcoming** (or: progressively conquering) **the ordered System** (world) **if not the one continuously believing and trusting that Jesus is** (continuously exists being) **the Son of God** (God's Son; or: the Son who is God)**?**

6. **This is the One at one point coming through water and blood and breath** (or: spirit; Breath-effect), **Jesus Christ. Not within the water alone** (or: not in only water), **but rather within the water and within the blood** (or: in union with water and in union with blood; [note: figure of a human birth, or natural lineage]), **and then there is the breath – that which is continuing to give evidence** (or: and the Spirit {Breath-effect} continuously exists being the One repeatedly testifying), **because the breath** (or: Spirit; Breath-effect) **is** (or: exists being) **the Truth and Reality!** (or: and the spirit {or: breath} is the One {or: one} continuously witnessing that the Spirit is The Truth {or: the Breath-effect is reality}!)
7. **Because three are the ones constantly testifying** (giving evidence; bearing witness)**:**
8. **the breath** (or: spirit; Breath-effect) **and the water and the blood, and these three are [coming; proceeding] into the One** (or: are existing into one thing; = are in unison; = are in agreement, or are for one thing).

9. **Since** (or: If) **we are habitually receiving the testimony** (the witness; the evidence) **of humans** (people), **the evidence of God** (God's witness and testimony; or: the testimony and evidence which is God) **is** (or: exists being) **greater, because it is God's testimony** (or: the witness which is God) **that He has testified** (given as evidence; witnessed) **and now exists available as evidence** (or: testimony), **concerning His Son** (or: round about the Son which is Him).
10. **The person continuously** (or: progressively) **believing** (or: putting trust) **into the midst of God's Son constantly holds** (or: has; possesses) **the testimony** (witness; evidence) [*p*74 & A add: of God] **within himself; the one not believing in God** [A reads: the Son] **has made Him out to be** (or: has construed Him) **a liar, because he has not believed or put trust into the evidence** (testimony; witness) **which God has attested and affirmed concerning His Son** (or: shown as proof round about the Son which is Him).
11. **And so this is the evidence** (or: exists being the testimony, witness and attested affirmation)**: that God gives** (or: gave; grants) **Life pertaining to, and having the quality of the Age** (life whose source is the Age; eonian life; Life for and on through the ages) **to us, and the Life continuously exists within His Son** (or: is in union with the Son which is Him)**!**
12. **The one continually holding** (or: constantly having; progressively possessing) **the Son continuously holds** (constantly has; progressively possesses) **the Life. The one not continuously holding** (constantly having) **God's Son does not now have** (or: hold) **the Life**. [note: it seems that the Son is the Life]

13. **I write these things to you folks to the end that, having seen, you may know that you are holding** (you folks constantly have) **Life pertaining to, and having the qualities of, the Age** (life whose source is the Age; eonian life; Life for and on through the ages) **– for the folks** (or: in the ones) **continuously believing and putting their trust into the Name of God's Son.**

14. **And this is the freedom of speech with outspoken boldness** (inherent to citizenship) **which we constantly have toward, and hold face to face with, Him: that if we ourselves should keep on asking or persistently request anything in line with** (or: down from; in the sphere of; that accords with) **His will** [A reads: Name], **He is continuously hearing us.**
15. **And if we have seen and are thus aware that He constantly hears us, whatever we may keep on requesting concerning or for ourselves, we have seen and are aware that we habitually have the requests** (the things asked for) **which we have asked – and now stand requested – from Him.**

16. **If anyone of you may happen to see his brother** (= fellow believer, or, fellowman) **habitually failing to hit a target** (sinning; making mistakes), **with a failure** (error; offense; deviation) **not with a view toward** (= that would lead to) **death, he shall ask** (make a request) **and He will give life to him – for those habitually failing to hit a target** (erring; sinning) **not [leading] toward death. There is a failure to hit a target** (a mistake; a deviation; sin) **[which leads] toward** (or: with a view to) **death** (perhaps: = bearing a death penalty, [within that culture]). **I am not saying that he should ask about** (or: concerning) **that one.**
17. **All injustice** (contrariness to the Way pointed out; inequity) **is a failure to hit the target** (deviation; error; sin; a failure toward the Purpose), **and yet there is failure to hit a target [that is] not toward death** (or: deviation [that does] not [lead] to death).

18. **We have seen and thus know that everyone being a person having been born from out of the midst of God is not habitually failing to hit the target** (erring; deviating; sinning; falling short of the Purpose), **but rather, the person at some point being born from out of God habitually keeps a guarded watch over himself** (or: keeps himself; [other MSS: for instead, the One born from the midst of God continuously watches over and keeps him]), **and so the fellow** (the one; the person) **that causes misery or painful labor is not habitually touching him** (or: the disadvantageous and worthless situation does not repeatedly lay hold of him; the base fellow is not constantly assailing him; wickedness and evil are not continuously fastening upon him).

19. **We have seen and thus know that we are continuously existing from out of the midst of God, yet the whole** (or: entire) **ordered System is continuously lying outstretched** (lying as asleep, idle or dead; reclining) **within the gush of misery** (within the disadvantageous, laborious and worthless situation; within the sorry plight; in union with wickedness and evil),
20. **yet we have seen and thus know that God's Son has arrived and is continuously here, and He has given thorough understanding** (comprehension; thought; intelligence; input throughout the mind) **to the end that we would constantly know** [other MSS: so that we constantly know] **by experience the True One** (or: the true, the real and the genuine), **and we constantly exist within and in union with the True One** (or: in the real

[situation]; in the midst of Reality)**: within His Son, Jesus Christ. This One is the True** (Real; Genuine) **God, and Life pertaining to and having the qualities of the Age** (or: life having its source in the Age; eonian life; Life of, and on through, the ages).

21. **Little children** (born ones) **keep yourselves in custody** (or: guarded)**! – away from the idols** (the external appearances; the forms; or: = false concepts)**!**

[written circa A.D. 60-65 – Based on the critical analysis of John A.T. Robinson]