

John

2:12-14

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John pauses to:

- ❖ ***Comfort his readers after a strong warning***
- ❖ ***Encourage his readers***
- ❖ ***Tell his readers...NO Excuses!***

Three Seasons of Spiritual Maturity

- ❖ **Little Children: New to faith; early on journey**
- ❖ **Young Men: Engaged in struggle and growing**
- ❖ **Fathers: Endured long enough to lead others**

To Spiritual Children:

Two different words:

- Vs 12: emphasis on relationship and connection
- Vs 13: emphasis on authority of father and discipline

Two Truths Already Present

- Your sins are forgiven
 - ~Perfect tense ~Passive voice
- You KNOW the Father

The first thing that Christians should know is that their sins are forgiven. That can perhaps best be put by a series of negatives. The Christian is not a person who is seeking forgiveness, or who is hoping to be forgiven. The Christian is not a person who is uncertain about forgiveness or who prays for it or tries to merit it. No, Christians are people who know that they are forgiven.

Now, this is absolutely vital and fundamental. So many people, when you ask them if they know that their sins are forgiven, say, 'I am hoping that they are; I am seeking forgiveness; I am praying for it'; I am very uncertain about the whole thing, but I am hoping that my sins will be forgiven me.' No! says John. 'That is not the Christian position—that is a typical non-Christian statement. The Christian is one whose sins are already forgiven.'

Martyn Lloyd-Jones

To Young Men:

Overcome the evil one:

- Possible
- Strength
- Pattern

You are strong and the word abides in you

- The two are related: Your strength comes from the indwelling word
- 10 ways

To Spiritual Fathers:

You have known Him who is from the beginning:

- ***Know: Lit = to perceive, to understand, to experience, to grasp experientially, to learn by experience***

You have walked with Him long enough to lead others:

- ***You recognize His hand at work***
- ***You see His Spirit working in others***
- ***You know what pleases and displeases Him***
- ***You know the pattern of His touch***

“When you can’t trace His hand trust His heart!”

What Message is For YOU?

- **Do you KNOW your sins are forgiven?**
- **Are you OVERCOMING?**
- **Do you KNOW Him well enough to lead others...and are you DOING it?**

10 Ways To Have God's Word Abide In You

- ~Write it daily**
- ~Make notecard**
- ~Sing it**
- ~Create graphic**
- ~Memorize it**
- ~Create wallpaper on phone**
- ~Set daily reminder**
- ~Post it on fridge, car, desk**
- ~Record it and play back**
- ~Read it**

Perfect Tense

Action is completed in the past



Result continues into the future