

In His Steps

1 John 2:1-8

Going Beyond the sermon into Scripture preached by Pastor Peter Oh on May 6, 2018, GEMS Sunday

Entering In:

*GEMS' theme for this year is "In His Steps."
Reflecting your own journey, share one step you walked with the Lord.
How did it bless you?*

1. What does John call his readers (vs. 1 and 7)? What does this tell you?

What false claim does John confront in 1:8? [NOTE: Keep in mind that the chapter/verse divisions were *not* part of the original text. This is the immediate context of 2:1.]

Why did John write "this" (1:8-10) to them?

Is "this" possible (1:8)?

Then, what other false notion is John addressing in 2:1a? [cf. Romans 6:1]

Why must we take these challenges to what we claim we believe seriously? [cf. Jeremiah 17:9]

2. When we sin, who is our mediator (advocate)?

What does he do?

How is he able to do this?

3. To who was Jesus' sacrifice made? Why?

To what extent is his sacrifice sufficient?

[Note that the original language implies "He Himself is Sacrifice (αὐτὸς ἱλασμός ἐστιν)."]

What does this mean to you?

4. Have you come to know Jesus? How do you know?

What is the verb in the perfect tense indicating? "We *have come to know* him."

To whom do the pronouns, *him* and *his*, refer (v.3ff)? [cf. 1:5, 2:1]

What difference would the answer to that question make in how you would understand what follows? Explain.

What (or whose) *commands* is John exhorting us to obey?

5. Does “God’s love” (verse 5) imply “Our love for God” or “God’s love for us”? Why?

How is God’s love made complete in you?

What do the words “made complete” mean?

To what extent is perfection possible for the believer?

6. What does it mean to “walk as Jesus did”?

What do you need to implement in your life to walk as Jesus did?

7. What is the old command?

Why was it not new then, and how is it new now?

Some evangelical churches believe that the Old Testament does not apply to the Church, and that the only laws we are obligated to obey are those that are specifically cited in the New Testament. How would you answer someone who uses that doctrine to justify their belief that we are no longer obligated to keep the Sabbath Day holy (that commandment is not mentioned in the New Testament)?

8. Who or what is the *true* light?

How does the truth come to be seen in you?

Living It Out:

How are you going to follow Jesus?

Pray that you may be wholeheartedly willing and ready to live as Jesus did.

