

First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cambridge, Massachusetts
The Lord's Day, December 4, Anno Domini 2005

1John 1:5-2:2 Fellowship in the Light

- I. God is light.
 - A. The message came from him.
 - B. God is...light, love, Spirit, fire.
1John 4:8, 16; John 4:24; Heb 12:29; John 8:12; John 12:46; Hebrews 1:3.
 - C. Light in the Bible is revelation, truth, holiness, purity, glory.
Psalm 104:1-2; Psalm 36:9; 43:3; Ephesians 5:13; Exodus 15:11; 1Peter 2:9.

- II. If we say...

Three important lessons for the church.

 - A. 1John 1:6...That we have fellowship with him we cannot be walking in darkness.
Against antinomianism. 2Corinthians 6:14.
 - B. 1John 1:8...That we have no sin we deceive ourselves.
Against Pelagianism. Deuteronomy 32:4; Hebrews 10:23, 17.
 - C. 1John 1:10...That we have not sinned we make God a liar.
Against perfectionism. Romans 3:23; Psalm 14:3; Proverbs 20:9.

- III. If anyone sins...

What is in reach in this life is forgiveness and purification.

 - A. The apostle's purpose in writing "these things"...
 - B. And if anyone sins...
First we are urged to not sin. Then we are instructed what to do if we do sin.
 - C. We have an advocate with the Father...
Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 4:15; Romans 3:24-25; 1John 4:14.

- IV. Jesus Christ the Son of God makes it possible for us to have fellowship with God.
 - A. Apostolic declaration of holy communion with the holy God is only possible through Jesus Christ the Son of God, verse 3.
 - B. Communion with God is only possible in his light.
 1. We cannot walk in darkness and have communion with God.
 2. We must not deceive ourselves to think that we have no sin and thus can walk freely in the light.
 3. We cannot say that we have not sinned.
 - C. Communion with God is possible only through Jesus Christ his Son.
 1. His blood cleanses us from all sin.
 2. If we confess our sins, he will cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
 3. He is our only possible Advocate with the Father.
 4. He himself is the propitiation for our sins, and for those of the whole world.