

WALK IN THE LIGHT (Part 1)

During November, we are studying five problem-solving doctrines of CWL (Christian way of life). Each lesson will study a Problem Solving Doctrine for a primary hindrance to the CWL in the Devil's world (1 Jn.5:19).

John opens by introducing his sermon: **“And this is the message which we have heard of Him and declare unto you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.” (1 Jn.1:5)**

The Greeks would refer to type of speech as an “A Priori” argument. An “A Priori” argument reasoned from a general rule to a specific rule or from cause to effect.

In John's sermon the general rule was **“God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.”** The specific rule was given three times by a special third class conditional clause (3cc) **“If we say that”** (1 Jn.1:6-7; 1:8-9; 1:10-2:2).

A 3cc has a protasis (if) and an apodosis (then). In John's sermon, the protasis gives both the false and true doctrines and the apodosis gives both of their effects upon the CWL.

1. Let's look at the first 3cc (1 Jn.1:6-7).

General rule: GOD IS LIGHT AND IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL

Specific rule: Protasis: “(If) we say that we have fellowship with Him (God) and walk in darkness.”
Apodosis: (then) “we lie, and do not practice the truth.

Specific rule: Protasis: “But (if) walk in the light as He Himself is in the light.”
Apodosis: (then) “We have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

What was the **false** doctrine? _____

- What darkness is John referring? (1 Pet.2:9; Col.1:13-14; Acts 26:18)
- Who is promoting the lie? (John 8:32, 44)
- What is the effect of it upon the CWL?
- What is the general rule and is it an absolute?

What is the **true** doctrine? _____

- What light is John referring? (John 8:12; 2 Cor.4:4; 1 Pet.2:9; Eph.5:8)
- What effect does walking in the light have upon the CWL? _____
- How is it possible to walk continuously in God's light (Phil.2:15-16; 1 Cor.6:19; Rom.2:19)
- What has God provided for the Christian who might walk temporarily in darkness to regain walking in the light of God's fellowship?
- What is the general rule and is it absolute?

2. **Let's look at the second 3cc (Jn.1:8-9).**

General rule: "GOD IS LIGHT AND IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL."

Specific rule: Protasis: "(If) we say that we have no sin."

Apodosis: (then) "We are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

Specific rule: Protasis: "(If) we confess our sins."

Apodosis: (then) "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse (katharizo) us from all unrighteousness."

What is the **false** doctrine? _____

- What is the effect of it on CWL? (Gal.5:16-17; 1 Pet.2:11)

What is the **true** doctrine? _____

- What effect does confession of personal sin have upon the CWL?
- How does it effect walking in the light? (Eph.5:8-11; Rom.13:12)
 - What is the general rule and is it absolute?

3. **Let's look at the third 3cc (1:10-2:2).**

General rule: "GOD IS LIGHT AND IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL."

Specific rule: Protasis: "(If) we say that we have not sinned."

Apodosis (then) "We make Him a liar, and His word is not in us." [My little children, I am writing these things to you that you may not sin.]

Specific rule: Protasis: "And (if) any man sin."

Apodosis: (then) "We have an advocate (parakletos) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation (hilasmos) for our sins; and not only for ours only, but also for those of the whole world."

What is the **false** doctrine? _____

- What effect does it have on the CWL? (triad of sin)

What is the **true** doctrine? _____

- What effect does it have on the CWL?
- How does it effect walking in the light?
- How does it affect the whole world? (Rom.3:25; 8:1; 1 John 4:10)
- Note the use of cleansing by the blood of Christ (1:7, 9, 2:2)
- What is the general rule and is it absolute?