

**ARAMAIC PESHITTA NEW TESTAMENT**  
**I JOHN**

**Chapter 1**

1 We preach to you that which was from the beginning, which we have heard and seen with our eyes, sensed and touched with our hands, which is the <sup>an</sup>word of life.<sup>1</sup>

2 <sup>pa</sup>And life was revealed and we saw [it] and testify and preach to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us.γ

3 And what we have seen and heard, we also make known to you, so that you would have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

4 And these [things] we write to you, so that our joy that is in you would be full.

5 And this is the gospel that we heard from him and we preach to you, that <sup>c</sup>God is light and there is no <sup>m</sup>darkness in him at all.

6 And if we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in <sup>m</sup>darkness, we are liars and we do not proceed in the truth.

7 But if we walk in the <sup>m</sup>light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the <sup>mt</sup>blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all of our sins.

8 And if we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

9 And if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all our wickedness.

10 And if we say that we do not sin, we make him a liar and his word is not with us.

**Chapter 2**

1 My sons, I am writing these [things] to you so that you do not sin. Yet if someone should sin, we have a defense attorney with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Just [one].

2 For he is the payment for our sins and not on behalf of ours only, but also on behalf of <sup>e</sup>[the sins of] the whole world.

3 And by this we perceive that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

4 For he who says, "I know him," and does not keep his commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him.

5 But he who keeps his word, in this [one] truly the love of God is completed, for in this we know that we are in him.

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<sup>1</sup> Fig: anabasis, emphasis on *word of life*

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**Chapter 2**

6 He who says, "I am in him," ought to conduct himself according to his own conduct.<sup>1</sup>

7 My beloved [ones], I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning. And the old commandment is the word that you have heard.

8 <sup>al</sup>Again, I am writing a new commandment to you that is true in him and in you, because the <sup>m</sup>darkness has passed and the true <sup>m</sup>light<sup>2</sup> has begun to be seen.

9 Therefore, he who says that he is in the <sup>m</sup>light and hates his brother is in <sup>m</sup>darkness until now.

10 But he who loves his brother remains in the <sup>m</sup>light and there is no stumbling in him.

11 But he who hates his brother is in <sup>m</sup>darkness and walks in <sup>m</sup>darkness and does not know where he is going, because the <sup>m</sup>darkness has blinded his eyes.¶

12 I am writing to you, sons, because your sins are forgiven on account of his name.

13 I am writing to you, fathers, because you have known him who is from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men,<sup>3</sup> because you have overcome the Evil [one]. I have written to you, young boys, because you have known the Father.

14 I have written to you, fathers, because you have known him who was from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong and the word of God lives in you and you have overcome the Evil [one].

15 Do not love the <sup>sy</sup>world and not anything that is in it, for he who loves the <sup>sy</sup>world does not have the love of the Father.

16 For everything that is in the <sup>sy</sup>world, the desire of the body and the desire<sup>4</sup> of the <sup>m</sup>eyes and the boasting of the world, is not from the Father, but is from the <sup>sy</sup>world itself.

17 And the <sup>sy</sup>world and its desire pass away, but he who does the will of God remains forever.

18 My sons, it is the last time and according to what you have heard, a false Messiah will come. Even now there are many false Messiahs and from this we know that it is the last time.

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<sup>1</sup> Same root: *conduct himself, conduct*

<sup>2</sup> Repeat *light, darkness*, vs. 8-11

<sup>3</sup> Repeat *fathers, young men*, vs. 13, 14

<sup>4</sup> Repeat *desire, world*, vs. 15-17

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**Chapter 2**

19 They have gone out from us, but they are not of us, for if they had been of us they would have stayed with us, but they went out from us that it would be known that they were not of us.

20 And <sup>ac</sup>you have an anointing<sup>1</sup> from the holy [one] and are distinguishing between everyone.

21 I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no falsehood is of the truth.

22 Who is a liar, ~~except~~ he who denies that Jesus is the Messiah?<sup>2</sup> This one is a false Messiah. He who denies the Father also denies the Son.

23 And he who denies the Son, also does not believe in the Father. He who confesses the Son, also confesses<sup>3</sup> the Father.

24 And what **you** have heard ~~previously~~ should remain with you, for if what you have heard ~~previously~~ remains with you, you will also remain<sup>4</sup> in the Father and in the Son.

25 And this is the promise that he has promised<sup>5</sup> to us, eternal life.

26 And these [things] I have written to you on account of those who seduce you.

27 And you also, if the anointing that you have received from him remains with you, will not need anyone to teach you. But as the anointing is from God, it teaches you about everything and it is the truth and there is no falsehood in it. And as he has taught you, remain in him.

28 And now, my sons, remain in him, so that when he is revealed, we will not be ashamed before him, but we will have boldness at his coming.

29 If you know that he is just, know that also everyone who does a just [thing] is from him.

**Chapter 3**

1 And see how great [is] the love of the Father toward us, because he has called us, even made us, sons. Because of this, the <sup>sy</sup>world does not know us, because it did not even know him.

2 My beloved [ones], now we are the sons of God and it does not yet appear what we are going to be, but we know that when he is revealed, we will be in his likeness and we will see him as he is.

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<sup>1</sup> Same root: *anointing, Messiah* from v. 18, also vs. 22, 27

<sup>2</sup> Fig: erotesis – question to ponder

<sup>3</sup> Repeat *confesses*

<sup>4</sup> Repeat forms of *remain*, also, vs. 27, 28, 3:6, 14, 15

<sup>5</sup> Same root: *promise, promised*

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**Chapter 3**

3 And everyone who has this hope concerning him purifies himself, as he is pure.

4 Now he who commits sin performs wickedness, for all sin is wickedness.<sup>1</sup>

5 And you know him who was revealed to take away our sins and there was no sin in him.

6 And everyone who remains in him does not sin and everyone who sins has not seen him and does not know him.

7 My sons, no man should deceive you. He who does a just [thing] is just, as also Christ is just.<sup>2</sup>

8 <sup>3</sup>He who performs sin is from SATAN, because from the beginning SATAN was a sinner.<sup>4</sup> And because of this, the Son of God appeared to destroy the works of SATAN.

9 Everyone who is born of God does not practice sin, because his seed is in him and he is not able to sin, because he is born of God.

10 By this the sons of God are separated from the sons of SATAN. Everyone who does not do<sup>5</sup> a just [thing] and does not love his brother is not from God.

11 For this is the commandment that you have heard previously, that you should love one another,

12 not as Cain, who was from the Evil [one] and killed his brother. And because of what did he kill him? Because his works were evil and those of his brother were just.

13 And do not wonder, my brothers, if the <sup>sy</sup>world hates you.

14 **We** know that we have moved from death to life in this, that we love our brothers. He who does not love his brother remains in death.

15 For everyone who hates his brother is a murderer and you know that everyone who is a murderer is not able to remain in eternal life.

16 In this we know his love toward us, for he gave himself for us. And it is also right for us to give ourselves for our brothers.

17 And whoever has property of the world and sees his brother who has a need and withholds his compassion from him, how is the love of God in him?

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<sup>1</sup> Repeat *wickedness*

<sup>2</sup> Repeat *just*, vs. 7-12

<sup>3</sup> Var (SLM): add 'and'

<sup>4</sup> Same root: *sin, sinner, sins*, vs. 8, 9

<sup>5</sup> *Do* is same word as *practice*, v. 9

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**Chapter 3**

18 My sons, do not love **one another** with words and with the <sup>m</sup>tongue, but with works and in truth.

19 And in this we recognize that we are from the truth and we will persuade our heart[s] before he comes.

20 Because if our heart condemns us, how much greater [is] God than our heart?<sup>1</sup> And he knows everything.

21 My beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, our faces are open before God,

22 and everything that we ask, we will receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do pleasing [things] before him.

23 And this is his commandment, that we believe on the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love **one another** as he commanded us.

24 And he who keeps his commandments is kept<sup>2</sup> by him and he lives in him. And by this we understand that he lives in us, from his Spirit that he gave to us.

**Chapter 4**

1 My beloved [ones], do not believe all the spirits, but discern whether the spirits are from God, because many false prophets have gone out in the <sup>sy</sup>world.<sup>3</sup>

2 By this the Spirit of God is known, [for] every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the <sup>sy</sup>flesh is from God.

3 And every spirit that does not confess that Jesus<sup>4</sup> has come in the flesh is not from God, but this <sup>e</sup>[spirit] is from the false Messiah, about whom you have heard that he would come and is now **already** in the <sup>sy</sup>world.

4 Now **you** children, are of God and you have overcome them, because greater [is] he who is in you than he who is in the <sup>sy</sup>world.

5 And these are from the <sup>sy</sup>world. Because of this, they speak from the <sup>sy</sup>world and the <sup>at</sup>world hears them.

6 But **we** are from God and he who knows God hears us and he who is not from God will not hear us. By this we know the <sup>an</sup>Spirit of truth and the <sup>as</sup>spirit of deception.

7 My beloved [ones], we should love **one another**, because love is from God and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God,

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<sup>1</sup> Fig: erotesis, **kema** question, emphasizing how much greater God is.

<sup>2</sup> Repeat forms of *keep*

<sup>3</sup> Repeat *world*, vs. 1-5, 9

<sup>4</sup> Var (L): 'the Messiah'

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**Chapter 4**

8 because God is love. And everyone who does not love, does not know God.

9 By this the love of God toward us is known, because God sent his unique Son into the <sup>sy</sup>world that we would have life by him.

10 In this is love, not that **we** loved God, but [that] he<sup>1</sup> loved us and sent his Son [as] a payment for our sins.

11 My beloved [ones], if God so loved us, we also ought<sup>2</sup> to love one another.

12 No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God remains<sup>3</sup> in us and his love is completed in us.

13 And by this we know that we remain in him and he remains in us, because he has given us his Spirit.

14 And **we** have seen and testify that the Father sent his Son [as] the Redeemer for the <sup>sy</sup>world.

15 Everyone who confesses Jesus, that he is the Son of God, God remains in him and he remains in God.

16 And **we** believe and we know the love that God has toward us, for God is love, and everyone who remains in love remains in God.

17 And in this his love is completed with us, so that **we would have boldness** in the <sup>sy</sup>day of judgment, because as he was, so are **we** in this <sup>sy</sup>world.

18 There is no fear in love, but complete love throws out fear, because fear is dangerous. Now he who fears is not completed in love.<sup>4</sup>

19 Therefore, we should love God, because he first loved us.

20 But if someone should say, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For he who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, how can he love God, whom he has not seen?<sup>5</sup>

21 And we have received this commandment from him, that everyone who loves God should also love his brother.

**Chapter 5**

1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is Christ is fathered of God and everyone who loves the one fathering loves also the one who is fathered<sup>6</sup> by him.

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<sup>1</sup> Var (SLM): 'God'

<sup>2</sup> Var (M): omit *we ought*

<sup>3</sup> Repeat *remains* (again), vs. 12-16

<sup>4</sup> Repeat *love, fear, hate, seen*, vs. 18-21

<sup>5</sup> Fig: erotesis – question to ponder

<sup>6</sup> Same root: *one fathering, is fathered*

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**Chapter 5**

2 And by this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and do his commandments.

3 For this is the love of God, that we should keep his commandments. And his commandments are not difficult,

4 because everyone who is born of God has overcome the <sup>sy</sup>world and this is the victory that overcomes<sup>1</sup> the <sup>sy</sup>world, our faith.

5 For who is he who overcomes the <sup>sy</sup>world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?<sup>2</sup>

6 This is he who came by way of water and blood, Jesus Christ. He was not by water alone, but by water and blood.

7 And the Spirit bears witness, for the Spirit is truth.<sup>3</sup>

8 And there are three witnesses,<sup>4</sup> Spirit and water and blood and the three of them are as one.

9 If we receive the testimony of men, how much more<sup>5</sup> the testimony of God that is greater? And this is the testimony of God that he testified concerning his Son.

10 Whoever believes in the Son of God has this testimony in himself. Everyone who does not believe has made God a liar, in that he did not believe the testimony that God testified concerning his Son.

11 And this is the testimony, that God has given us eternal life and the life is in his Son.

12 Everyone who holds fast to the Son also holds fast to life. And everyone who does not hold fast<sup>6</sup> to the Son of God does not have life.

13 These [things] I have written to you, those who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you would know that you have eternal life.

14 And we have this confidence toward him, for everything that we ask of him according to his will, he hears us.

15 And if we are persuaded that he hears us concerning what we request of him, we are confident that we have already received our requests that we requested<sup>7</sup> of him.

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<sup>1</sup> Repeat forms of *overcome*, vs. 4, 5

<sup>2</sup> Fig: erotesis – question to ponder

<sup>3</sup> Var (SM): add ‘for there are three that bear witness in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one.’

<sup>4</sup> Var (SM): add ‘on earth’

<sup>5</sup> Fig: ellipsis, add [should we receive]; fig: erotesis, **kema** question, answer in the affirmative; same root: *testimony*, *testified*, vs. 9-11

<sup>6</sup> Repeat *holds fast*

<sup>7</sup> Same root: *requests*, *requested*

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16 If someone should see his brother when he sins a sin that is not guilty of death, he should ask and life will be given to those who do not sin as to death. <sup>pa</sup>For there is a sin of death, [but] I do not say that anyone should pray for this <sup>e</sup>[sin].<sup>γ</sup><sup>1</sup>

17 For all wickedness is sin and there is a sin that is not of death.

18 And we know that everyone who is born of God does not sin, for he who is born of God guards himself and the Evil [one] does not come near him.

19 We know that we are of God and all the <sup>pe</sup>world is seated in wickedness.

20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us knowledge that we would know the true [one] and be in him, in the true [one],<sup>2</sup> in his Son, Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

21 My sons, keep yourselves from idolatry.

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<sup>1</sup> Repeat *sin, death, wickedness*, vs. 16-19

<sup>2</sup> Repeat *true [one]*