1 John 2:12-14

Forgiveness, Knowledge and Victory

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Forgiveness of Sins

<u>1John 2:12</u> (HCSB)
I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven because of Jesus' name.

- "Children" refers to all in the church
- "*hoti*" is found 6 times in these verses and is causal (because)
- All Christians need to know the sure ground of the forgiveness of sins
- "because of" is "*dia*" which denotes "through" the name which means the person and work of Christ

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The Ground of John's Writing

Six *Hoti* Clauses

- Because your sins have been forgiven (vs 12)
- Because you have known the One from the *arche_* (vs 13)
- Because you have conquered the Evil One (vs 13)
- Because you have known the Father (vs 14)
- Because you have known the One from the *arche_* (vs 14)
- Because you are strong and conquered the Evil One (vs 14)

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Knowing God in Christ

1John 2:13a (HCSB)
I am writing to you, fathers, because you have come to know the One who is from the beginning . . .

- "Have come to know" is in the perfect tense
- "From the beginning" echoes 1Jn 1:1 which echoes John 1:1 which echoes Genesis 1:1
- Knowing Christ and knowing forgiveness go together

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Victory Over the Evil One

1John 2:13b (HCSB)
I am writing to you, young men, because you have had victory over the evil one.

- The "evil one" is Satan who is also the accuser and the adversary
- The world lies under the power of the evil one (1John 5:18, 19)
- The world is conquered by faith (1John 5:4)

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Knowing God

1John 2:14a (HCSB)
…I have written to you, children, because you have come to know the Father. I have written to you, fathers, because you have come to know the One who is from the beginning.

- "Children" (*paidion*), denotes all his readers (John 21:5)
- To know the Father implies knowing the Son (John 14:7)
- "Fathers" is a term of respect and may describe the mature

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Abiding in God's Word

1John 2:14b (HCSB)
…I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, God's word remains in you, and you have had victory over the evil one.

- The abiding word is the key to conquering the liar
- John links discipleship to abiding in Christ's word (John 8:31)
- We must continually abide in the truth because the world never stops lying to us!

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Implications and Applications

- New Covenant promises are fulfilled in Christ
- Christ both paid for our forgiveness and advocates for it
- We must abide in His word and conquer Satan

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New Covenant Promises

Acts 2:38, 39 (ESV)
And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

- Forgiveness of sins
- Knowledge of God
- See Jeremiah 31:31-34

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Christ Is Our Advocate

Hebrews 9:24 (ESV)
For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

- He who died for our sins continues to advocate for our forgiveness
- This is taught in 1John 2:1
- "On our behalf" is *huper* in the Greek

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Abiding in His Word Means Victory

John 8:31, 32 (NASB)
So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

- See John 8:44; The Devil is a liar and speaks "the lie"
- Abiding in the truth is victory over the devil and true freedom

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