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First John Study Help

This document provides some concise, inciteful textual information that should be factored into your future study of I John, if you are unaware of it. It is intentionally brief and focuses mainly on certain nuances of the original Koine Greek verbs used by John. To keep it short, certain verses are shown with those verbs highlighted in bold font. The nuance of those verbs are inserted in the verses in *italic font*. Considering these nuances (in *italic font*) can help you gain a deeper comprehension of the things John wrote. The translators of your English Bible may have given hints about these nuances, but they usually go unnoticed by English-speaking people. This document brings them to the forefront for you so you don't miss them. I recommend you print this document and keep in in your Bible at the beginning of I John. This way, you can consult it next time you read I John.

I John 1:3 - that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may **have**, *and continue to have*, fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:6 - If *at any time* we say that we have fellowship with Him, and *are walking* in darkness, *we are lying* and *are not practicing* the truth.

1 John 1:7 - But *if/when* we *are walking* in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses, *and continues to cleanse* us from all sin.

1 John 1:8 - If we say that we have no sin, *we are deceiving* ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (*NASB renders it this way.*)

1 John 1:9 - If we confess, *and continue to confess* our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:10 - If *at any time* we say that we have not sinned, *we are making* Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

I John 2:3 - And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we *are keeping* His commandments.
(By God's grace only of course)

1 John 2:5 - But whoever keeps, *and continues to keep* His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know (*and continue to know*) that we are in Him.

1 John 2:9 - He who says he is in the light, and hates (*and continues to hate*) his brother, is in darkness until now.

1 John 2:10 - He who loves *and continues to love* his brother abides (*remains, and continues to remain*) in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

1 John 2:11 - But he who hates (*and continues to hate*) his brother is in darkness and *is walking* in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

1 John 2:17 - And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does (*and continues doing*) the will of God abides/*remains* forever.

1 John 2:23 - Whoever *is denying* the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses *and continues to confess* the Son has the Father also.

1 John 2:28 - And now, little children, abide (*remain*) in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

1 John 3:3 - And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies, *and continues to purify* himself, just as He is pure.

1 John 3:6 - No one who abides in him *keeps on sinning*; no one who *keeps on sinning* has either seen him or known him. (*This rendering, including the italic font wording, is the exact wording of the ESV. It is copied verbatim to show that Bible translators know about these Greek verb nuances but rarely call attention to them with their translations. This ESV rendering is a rare case for the ESV also.*)

1 John 3:7 - Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices (*and continues to practice*) righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

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1 John 3:8 - the one who practices, *and continues to practice* sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:9 - No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides (*remains*) in him, and he cannot *keep on sinning* because he has been born of God. (*This is another rare case in which the ESV calls attention to the nuances of the Greek verb for sin.*)

1 John 3:22 - And whatever we ask *and continue to ask* we receive from Him, because we keep *and continue to keep* His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

1 John 3:24 - Now he who keeps *and continues to keep* His commandments abides (*remains*) in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

1 John 4:7 - Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves (*and continues to love*) is born of God and knows God.

1 John 4:12 - No one has seen God at any time. If we love (*and continue to love*) one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

1 John 5:1 - Whoever believes *and continues to believe* that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves *and continues to love* Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

1 John 5:4 - For whatever is born of God overcomes (*and continues to overcome*) the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world -- our faith.

1 John 5:5 - Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes *and continues to believe* that Jesus is the Son of God?

1 John 5:13- These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you might know (*in an ongoing way*) that you have eternal life, and so that you *would continue to believe* in the name of the Son of **God**.¹

1 John 5:14 - Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask *and continue to ask* anything according to His will, He hears (listens to) us.

1 John 5:15 - And **IF** we know that He hears (*listens to*) us, whatever we ask (*and continue to ask*), we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

1 John 5:18 - We know that whoever is born of God does not *keep on sinning*; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him.

Note: In 3:18-21, John tells us that “assurance” is experienced only if we are currently loving in deed and in truth. (The verb for “love” in verse 18 is in the present tense.)

¹ About 96% of all the ancient Greek manuscripts include the phrase, “*and so that you would continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*” (Only 4.6% of the manuscripts, which are demonstrably inferior, omit them.)