

I Have Written Unto You, Fathers

1Jo 2:14 "I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one."

John, in this chapter, is addressing keeping God's commandments, to love Jesus Christ, to love God, and to love one another. In this verse, John is telling the fathers that he has written unto them. Notice, he addresses both the old and the young. Why would John address the fathers and the young men? Because, by the testimony, and principles of God, the father is to be the spiritual head of the house. Some women may say that is unfair, but I direct you to God's commandment, seen in: **1Co 11:3 "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God."** Wherefore, the father is to be the spiritual leader of the household as Christ is the head of the church. This commandment does not exclude the mothers from their responsibility as taught by the word of God, nor does it keep them from exercising if the father fails in his responsibility.

Notice, he tells the fathers "**ye have known him that is from the beginning.**" John is talking to fathers who have lived in the time of Jesus's incarnation. Wherefore, John is telling the fathers, you have known Jesus and you are to teach your children that Jesus is real. You are to live faithful lives, and as a father, you are to set the example for your children, and for the young men who will become fathers in the future. You are to teach your children, family, and friends, that the antichrist is real and already exist in the world.

You are to teach; Jesus Christ was born of a virgin incarnate; he was crucified and buried; he arose from the dead and was seen by many witnesses; he has ascended back to heaven and is there interceding for sinners to have eternal life, and forgiveness of sins. Teach the whole word of truth, the bible, so all may be able to discern, as you can, the difference, between the antichrist and the real Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

The father is further admonished in: **Eph 6:1-4; 1 "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. 4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."** This is exactly what John is teaching in this chapter.

"I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one." John now addresses the young men. Notice, the young men are men who already believe in Jesus Christ. Young men who have already been born again, and who have overcome the antichrist, by the faith that has been instilled in them, by the Holy Spirit power of God.

Why would John address the young men? The young men will marry, and if blessed by God in procreation, will become fathers, who are to raise children. Fathers who are to take up the spiritual leadership role of the household. Fathers who are to bring up the family in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Fathers who know Jesus Christ and know the antichrist presence. Fathers who can demonstrate by living the life of Christian faith before their families. Fathers, who can teach their children; do not love the world with a love that is greater than the love of Jesus Christ.

Fathers who can teach their children, that Jesus Christ was born of a virgin incarnate, he was crucified and buried, he arose from the dead and was seen by many witnesses, he has ascended back to heaven, and is there interceding for sinners to have eternal life, and forgiveness of sins. Teach the whole word of truth, the bible, so all may be able to discern, as you can, the difference between the antichrist and the real Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

The following portion of the chapter addresses teaching; do not love worldly things above Christ. It teaches, focus your love on Jesus Christ, who gives eternal life and eternal forgiveness of sins.

People learn what they see and understand what they are taught. Godly fathering is being a role model, who is putting Jesus Christ in his proper place, first in all things with proper honor rendered to him. Jesus himself exemplified living the godly life while incarnate. Jesus taught; the antichrist was already hard at work deceiving people, of the truth of the one true Christ. May God help all fathers and young men, who have been born again, to be living examples, for all the world to look upon, and thereby glorify our Saviour and Lord, Jesus the Christ, we pray, Amen!