

Basis for Fellowship

1 John 1:5-2:2

I. Commonality – 1:5-7

1. Fellowship is based on commonality
It rests upon sharing something in common
Amos 3:3 “Can two walk together, except they be agreed”
2. Created in God’s image – Gen 1:26-27
Sin has marred that image breaking fellowship
3. God is light, no darkness in Him – 5
He is absolutely holy, pure, perfect
He is immutable – He cannot change
4. Fellowship must be based on Him – 6
We must walk in the light
If we do not there can be no fellowship
5. Christ makes fellowship possible - 7
His blood cleanses us from all sin

II. Confession – 1:8-10

1. Sin must be acknowledged – 8
Light is pure & reveals all darkness
To say we have no sin is to deceive our self
And to demonstrate the truth is not in us
God is absolute truth & we are not
Thus we cannot be in fellowship with Him
2. God offers forgiveness, cleansing – 9
It is a gift of His grace – not based on us
If we come to Him as a guilty sinner
If we confess, acknowledge our sin
He is faithful & just to forgive us
He is faithful because He has promised
He is faithful also to His Son who paid for our sin
He is just because the penalty has been paid
3. To deny our sin is to call God a liar – 10
God is truth & He speaks truth
He says that we are guilty sinners
To deny that is to say He did not speak truth
God’s truth is not in us
On that basis there can be no fellowship
For there is no commonality

III. Cleansing – 2:1-2

1. How is fellowship with God possible?
He is absolutely righteous, pure, holy
And we are guilty sinners
Fellowship can only be as we are as He is
John’s desire is that we would not sin - 1
But the reality is that we do sin
2. Christ is our righteous advocate – 1
We stand before God “in Him”
We are in Him by faith
God sees us in Christ’s righteousness
3. Christ is our propitiuous sacrifice – 2
He became one with us to be our advocate
He took our sins upon himself as Savior

He paid in full the penalty of our sin
God is totally satisfied with His sacrifice
Sin has been dealt with in Christ’s offering
There is nothing to hinder fellowship with God

4. This sacrifice is for all humans – 2
The sins of the whole world
Now it is back to confession of guilt
And faith in Jesus Christ as Savior