



## The People's Problem

April 11, 2021 Message Notes

1 JOHN 1:5-10

There is a sense in which every book of the Bible fits the statement, *it's all about the people*, especially in the book of 1 John. John understood how people got themselves into problems they couldn't easily get out of, or how people were vulnerable to temptation. But he also knew and understood the plans and future God has for His people in Jesus Christ.



## NOTES

*It's All About the People.*

For those God is growing beyond ego, and sensitizing to selfishness, and getting free from narcissism, this statement can be offensive and off-putting.

There is a sense in which every book of the Bible fits the statement it's all about the people in some way, but especially John's first letter.

John understood how people got themselves into problems they couldn't so easily get themselves out of; how people were vulnerable to temptation, to being misled and deceived by the world and by false teachers.

He also knew the amazing plans and future God has for His people in Jesus Christ.

"God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth."

*1 JOHN 1:5-6*

"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."

*1 JOHN 1:8*

"If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives."

*1 JOHN 1:10*

**Sin = hamartia** = missing the target, failing to hit bullseye, in moral expectation and action; a moral lapse, ethical failure.

Jesus said, "take the plank out of your own eye and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."

*MATTHEW 7:5*

"If we walk in the light as he is in light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin."

*1 JOHN 1:7*

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

*1 JOHN 1:9*



“If anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense – Jesus Christ the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only ours but also for the sins of the whole world!”

*1 JOHN 2:1-2*

### **God makes the people’s problems his business.**

God comes in Christ to deal with the captivity we have to sin at its root source and take us into freedom and overcoming in Christ.

#### **How can this happen for you?**

**FACE IT** – Own your problem

Confess: it means to agree with God.

**GRACE IT** – Apply Jesus as your solution to sin

Trust that what God has done in Christ is more than adequate and receive forgiveness by faith.

**REPLACE IT** – Love as the Father leads

The Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ becomes alive in you to replace your old habits and selfish patterns with a new life in Christ.

Sins in a believer's life are like spider webs. They are evidence that the ‘spider’ of our sinful self has been at work.

Every person since Adam’s original sin in the Garden has had to deal with their sinful nature.

“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in them.”

*1 JOHN 2:15*

“For everything in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – comes not from the Father but from the world.”

*1 JOHN 2:16*

“The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.”

*1 JOHN 2:17*

John talks about how the ‘spider’ of sin and its web shows up not just in the world but in us, in our fallen nature.

God’s good creation was twisted from its original purpose of glorifying Him. Things He created and intended for good are now distorted and diverted for self apart from God.



In their pride, some believe they can live a truly great life as their own god without a relationship with the true God. Lucifer did.

“...I will raise my throne above the stars of God...I will sit enthroned on the mount...on the utmost heights...”

*ISAIAH 14:13*

“I will ascend above the tops of the clouds: I will make myself like the Most High.”

*ISAIAH 14:14*

“But you are brought down to the realm of the dead, to the depths of the pit.”

*ISAIAH 14:15*

“The world and its desires pass away...”

*1 JOHN 2:17a*

**What is the way out of the pit, up from the dead? Let the love of the Father be in you.**

“...but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”

*1 JOHN 2:17b*

**Agape Love:** the love we see at the cross, cleansing our sins and crucifying the ‘spider’. Christ's body was broken so the body of sin would be crushed.

“I am crucified with Christ...”

*GALATIANS 2:20*

In every heart imagine there's a throne and a cross. Either Christ is on the cross and self is on the throne, or self is on the cross and Christ is on the throne. When Christ is on the throne of your life, His overcoming life is bringing victory to your battlefield.

**How are we to find victory?**

- Face your problem, own it.
- Grace your sin in Christ's death, receive it.
- Replace your ego (pride) with the Father's love.

“Humble yourself before the Lord and he will lift you up.”

*JAMES 4:10*

