

# First John 5:1-6

1. This section continues the theme of “love”. Agape and forms of the word occur 5x in 5:1-3.
2. John introduces “faith” as the primary topic.
3. The theme of John’s book continues to focus on:
  - a. Correct doctrine
  - b. Righteousness or obedience to God’s commands
  - c. Love
    - i. Love for God
    - ii. Love for the people of God
4. These three things are united and inseparable for the true believer.
  - a. It is not merely academic, but it must be understood doctrine.
  - b. It is not legalistic behavior, but there must be righteousness and separation from the kosmos.
  - c. It is not emotional or kindness because there must be commitment and actions of self-sacrifice serving God and his people.

**First John 5:1 – “Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him.”**

3956 [e]	3588 [e]	4100 [e]	3754 [e]	2424 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	5547 [e]	1537 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]
Pas	ho	pisteuōn	hoti	lēsous	estin	ho	Christos	ek	tou	Theou
1 Πᾶς	ὁ	πιστεύων	ὅτι	Ἰησοῦς	ἐστίν	ὁ	Χριστός	ἐκ	τοῦ	Θεοῦ
Everyone	-	believing	that	Jesus	is	the	Christ	of	-	God
Adj-NMS	Art-NMS	V-PPA-NMS	Conj	N-NMS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NMS	N-NMS	Prep	Art-GMS	N-GMS

1080 [e]	2532 [e]	3956 [e]	3588 [e]	25 [e]	3588 [e]	1080 [e]	25 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]
gegennētai	kai	pas	ho	agapōn	ton	gennēsanta	agapa	kai	ton
γεγέννηται	, καὶ	πᾶς	ὁ	ἀγαπῶν	τὸν	γεννήσαντα	, ἀγαπᾷ	καὶ	τὸν
has been born	and	everyone	-	loving	the [One]	having begotten [Him]	loves	also	the [one]
V-RIM/P-3S	Conj	Adj-NMS	Art-NMS	V-PPA-NMS	Art-AMS	V-APA-AMS	V-PIA-3S	Conj	Art-AMS

1080 [e]	1537 [e]	846 [e]
gegennēmenon	ex	autou
γεγεννημένον	ἐξ	αὐτοῦ
having been begotten	from	Him
V-RPM/P-AMS	Prep	PPro-GM3S

1. Basics: Belief that Jesus is the Christ (Messiah, second member of the Trinity, God) is born of God.
  - a. Believing that the eternal son has come in the flesh as in 4:2
  - b. Believing that Jesus is God’s Son as in 4:14 and 4:15.
  - c. Believing that Jesus is the Savior of the world as in 4:14
2. Being born of God, or being a son of God, means these three things:
  - a. Right behavior – 2:29 – “If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.”

- b. Avoiding a lifestyle of sin – 3:9 – “No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.”
  - c. Love other believers – 4:7 – “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.”
3. “has been born” – *gegennetai* – is perfect tense verb that suggests this is a past action with results that continue in the present. The Christian who was truly born of God in the past will continually live in faith in the present producing the fruit of that sonship.
  4. “Father” – *ton gennesanta* – literally means “the one who has begotten”. It is translated most often as simply “father”
  5. “his child” – *ton gegennememon* – literally means “the one having been begotten”. This is translated as “child” (Or, *ton gegennememon ex auto*, “the one having been begotten from Him”)

**First John 5:2 – “By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.”**

1722 [e]	3778 [e]	1097 [e]	3754 [e]	25 [e]	3588 [e]	5043 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	3752 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	
en	toutō	ginōskomen	hoti	agapōmen	ta	tekna	tou	Theou	hotan	ton	Theon	
2 ἐν	τούτῳ	γινώσκουμεν	ὅτι	ἀγαπῶμεν	τὰ	τέκνα	τοῦ	Θεοῦ	,	ὅταν	τὸν	Θεὸν
By	this	we know	that	we love	the	children	-	of God	when	-	God	
Prep	DPro-DNS	V-PIA-1P	Conj	V-PIA-1P	Art-ANP	N-ANP	Art-GMS	N-GMS	Conj	Art-AMS	N-AMS	

25 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	1785 [e]	846 [e]	4160 [e]
agapōmen	kai	tas	entolas	autou	poiōmen
ἀγαπῶμεν	καὶ	τὰς	ἐντολὰς	αὐτοῦ	ποιῶμεν .
we love	and	the	commandments	of Him	keep
V-PSA-1P	Conj	Art-AFP	N-AFP	PPro-GM3S	V-PSA-1P

1. Again, John is providing his readers with confirmation of their faith and confirming that their faith is producing. John is legitimatizing:
  - a. the reader's faith
  - b. the object of their faith
2. John is not giving them a command to strive after, but a mirror to reflect in and observe the effect their faith is having: Love and Obedience.

**First John 5:3 – “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.”**

3778 [e]	1063 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	26 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	2443 [e]	3588 [e]	1785 [e]	846 [e]
hautē	gar	estin	hē	agapē	tou	Theou	hina	tas	entolas	autou
3 αὕτη	γάρ	ἐστὶν	ἡ	ἀγάπη	τοῦ	Θεοῦ	, ἵνα	τὰς	ἐντολὰς	αὐτοῦ
This	for	is	the	love	-	of God	that	the	commandments	of Him
DPro-NFS	Conj	V-PIA-3S	Art-NFS	N-NFS	Art-GMS	N-GMS	Conj	Art-AFP	N-AFP	PPro-GM3S

5083 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]	1785 [e]	846 [e]	926 [e]	3756 [e]	1510 [e]		
tērōmen	kai	hai	entolai	autou	bareiai	ouk	eisin		
τηρῶμεν	;	καὶ	αἱ	ἐντολαὶ	αὐτοῦ	βαρεῖαι	οὐκ	εἰσὶν	.
we should keep	and	the	commandments	of Him	burdensome	not	are		
V-PSA-1P	Conj	Art-NFP	N-NFP	PPro-GM3S	Adj-NFP	Adv	V-PIA-3P		

1. Love for God is not an emotion, but an action which produces obedience
2. “Love of God” means “Love FOR God”. See Jesus’ words below from the book of John:
  - a. John 14:15, “If you love me, you will obey what I command.”
  - b. John 14:21 – “Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”
  - c. John 14:23-24 – “Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.
  - d. John 14:31 – “I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.”
  - e. John 15:10 – “If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love.”
3. The Father’s commands are not **burdensome** (*bareiai*):
  - a. *Bareiai* is only used here in First John (one other time in 2 Corinthians 10:10 “His letters are weighty...”)
  - b. *Bareiai* means “heavy, weighty, burdensome.” It indicates something is “oppressive,” or even, “violent.”
  - c. God’s commands are exact and high, but they are not demanding or oppressive. God’s commands do not shackle our lives, but instead they set us free. God’s commands set us free from the bondage of the world and the weight of sin.
  - d. In Matthew 23:4 Jesus accused the Pharisees of tying heavy burdens that were hard to bear on people. This is the opposite of what the commands of the Father produce: “They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people’s shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger.”

**First John 5:4 – “For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.”**

3754 [e]	3956 [e]	3588 [e]	1080 [e]	1537 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	3528 [e]	3588 [e]	2889 [e]	2532 [e]
hoti	pan	to	gegennēmenon	ek	tou	Theou	nika	ton	kosmon	kai
4 ὅτι	πάν	τὸ	γεγεννημένον	ἐκ	τοῦ	Θεοῦ	νικᾷ	τὸν	κόσμον	; καὶ
For	everyone	-	having been born	of	-	God	overcomes	the	world	and
Conj	Adj-NNS	Art-NNS	V-RPM/P-NNS	Prep	Art-GMS	N-GMS	V-PIA-3S	Art-AMS	N-AMS	Conj

3778 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	3529 [e]	3588 [e]	3528 [e]	3588 [e]	2889 [e]	3588 [e]	4102 [e]	1473 [e]	
hautē	estin	hē	nikē	hē	nikēsasa	ton	kosmon	hē	pistis	hēmōn	
αὕτη	ἐστὶν	ἡ	νίκη	ἡ	νικήσασα	τὸν	κόσμον	:	ἡ	πίστις	ἡμῶν .
this	is	the	victory	-	having overcome	the	world	the	faith	of us	
DPro-NFS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NFS	N-NFS	Art-NFS	V-APA-NFS	Art-AMS	N-AMS	Art-NFS	N-NFS	PPro-G1P	

1. For the 8<sup>th</sup> time John uses the word *gennao* “having been born” for the new birth. (2:29; 3:9 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18)
2. Notice the Greek word play with *nika* “victory” and *nikesasa* “having overcome”/*nika* “overcomes”. A consistent translation would be more like this:
  - a. “For everyone born of God conquers the world. This is the conquering that has conquered the world, EVEN OUR FAITH!”
  - b. A form of *nikao* (“conquer, overcome, victorious, prevail, subdue”) occurs 4x in 5:4,5

**First John 5:5 – “Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”**

5101 [e]	1161 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	3528 [e]	3588 [e]	2889 [e]	1487 [e]	3361 [e]	3588 [e]	4100 [e]	3754 [e]
Tis	de	estin	ho	nikōn	ton	kosmon	ei	mē	ho	pisteuōn	hoti
5 Τίς	δέ	ἐστὶν	ὁ	νικῶν	τὸν	κόσμον	,	εἰ	μὴ	ὁ	πιστεύων ὅτι
Who	now	is	the [one]	overcoming	the	world	if	not	the [one]	believing	that
IPro-NMS	Conj	V-PIA-3S	Art-NMS	V-PPA-NMS	Art-AMS	N-AMS	Conj	Adv	Art-NMS	V-PPA-NMS	Conj

2424 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	5207 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]
Iēsous	estin	ho	Huios	tou	Theou
Ἰησοῦς	ἐστὶν	ὁ	Υἱὸς	τοῦ	Θεοῦ ?
Jesus	is	the	Son	-	of God
N-NMS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NMS	N-NMS	Art-GMS	N-GMS

**First John 5:6 – “This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.”**

3778 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	2064 [e]	1223 [e]	5204 [e]	2532 [e]	129 [e]	2424 [e]	5547 [e]	3756 [e]
houtos	estin	ho	elthōn	di'	hydatos	kai	haimatos	Iēsous	Christos	ouk
6 οὗτός	ἐστίν	ὁ	ἔλθων	δι'	ὑδατος	καὶ	αἵματος	, Ἰησοῦς	Χριστός	; οὐκ
This	is	the [One]	having come	by	water	and	blood	Jesus	Christ	not
DPro-NMS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NMS	V-APA-NMS	Prep	N-GNS	Conj	N-GNS	N-NMS	N-NMS	Adv

1722 [e]	3588 [e]	5204 [e]	3440 [e]	235 [e]	1722 [e]	3588 [e]	5204 [e]	2532 [e]	1722 [e]	3588 [e]	129 [e]	2532 [e]	3588 [e]
en	tō	hydati	monon	all'	en	tō	hydati	kai	en	tō	haimati	kai	to
ἐν	τῷ	ὑδατι	μόνον	, ἀλλ'	ἐν	τῷ	ὑδατι	καὶ	ἐν	τῷ	αἵματι	καὶ	τὸ
by	-	water	only	but	by	-	water	and	by	-	blood	And	the
Prep	Art-DNS	N-DNS	Adv	Conj	Prep	Art-DNS	N-DNS	Conj	Prep	Art-DNS	N-DNS	Conj	Art-NNS

4151 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	3140 [e]	3754 [e]	3588 [e]	4151 [e]	1510 [e]	3588 [e]	225 [e]
Pneuma	estin	to	martyroun	hoti	to	Pneuma	estin	hē	alētheia
Πνεῦμά	ἐστίν	τὸ	μαρτυροῦν	, ὅτι	τὸ	Πνεῦμά	ἐστίν	ἡ	ἀλήθεια
Spirit	is	the [One]	testifying	because	the	Spirit	is	the	truth
N-NNS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NNS	V-PPA-NNS	Conj	Art-NNS	N-NNS	V-PIA-3S	Art-NFS	N-NFS