

<sup>28</sup> And now, little children, remain with him! So that if he is revealed you might have boldness and not be ashamed by him in his presence. <sup>29</sup> If you have known that he is righteous, you also know that everyone that practices righteousness has been created by him. <sup>3.1</sup> Look at what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we might be called and be children of the Creator! For this reason the cosmos does not know us—it did not know him. <sup>2</sup> Loved ones, we are now the children of the Creator and what we will be has not yet been revealed. You have known that when he has been revealed we will be like him for we will see him just as he is. <sup>3</sup> Everyone having this hope from him is purifying himself, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup> Everyone who practices selfishness also practices lawlessness—selfishness is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> You have known that he has been revealed in order to take up selfishness and selfishness is not in him. <sup>6</sup> Everyone who remains with him does not practice selfishness. Everyone who practices selfishness has not seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup> Little children, let no one deceive you! Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, like he is righteous. <sup>8</sup> Whoever practices selfishness is from the Devil, for the Devil is selfish from the beginning. For this the Son of the Creator has been revealed, to remove the actions of the Devil. <sup>9</sup> Everyone who has been created by the Creator practices no selfishness, for the Creator's seed remains in him—he is not able to practice selfishness, because he has been created by the Creator. <sup>10</sup> By this the children of the Creator and the children of the Devil are revealed. Everyone who does not practice righteousness is not from the Creator, so also the one who does not love his brother.

<sup>11</sup> For this is the message we listened to from the beginning—let us love each other! <sup>12</sup> Do not be like Cain who was from the unnatural one and killed his brother. And for what reason did he kill him? Because his actions were unnatural while those of his brother were righteous. <sup>13</sup> Do not be surprised, brothers, that the cosmos hates you! <sup>14</sup> We have known that we have moved from death into life because we are loving the brothers. Whoever does not love, remains in death. <sup>15</sup> Everyone who hates his brother is a human-killer and you know that every human-killer does not have eternal life remaining in him. <sup>16</sup> By this we have known love, that Christ laid down his life for us. Now we are obligated to lay down our lives for the brothers!

<sup>17</sup> If someone has the cosmos's possessions, sees his brother having a need, and closes off his compassion toward him, then how is the love of the Creator remaining in that person? <sup>18</sup> Little children, let us not love by word or tongue, but with action and truth. <sup>19</sup> By this we will know that we are from the truth and we will persuade our hearts before him. <sup>20</sup> For if the heart condemns us, the Creator of the heart is greater than us and knows all things. <sup>21</sup> Loved ones, if the heart does not condemn us, then we have boldness before the Creator. <sup>22</sup> And whatever we might ask, we receive from him because we are treasuring his commands and practicing the things that are pleasing before him. <sup>23</sup> This is his command—be faithful to the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love each other, just as he gave the command to us. <sup>24</sup> Whoever treasures his commands, remains with the Creator and the Creator is with him. By this we know that the Creator remains with us, by the Spirit he gave to us.