

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

v92

1 John

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

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unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

1 John

1 John 1

1 John 1:1

ULT	UST
What was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched, regarding the Word of life—	*I, John, am writing to you about Jesus, the Word of God, the one who gives life. He existed before there was anything else. We apostles listened to him as he taught people. We saw him personally. We looked at him and touched him. So we can testify that he was a real human being.*

By what means did John know about the Word of life?

John had heard, seen, contemplated, and handled the Word of life.

1 John 1:2

ULT	UST
indeed, the life appeared, and we have seen it, and we are testifying to it, and we are announcing to you the eternal life that was with the Father and appeared to us—	*Because he who always lives came here to the earth and we saw him, we are proclaiming him to you clearly. The one who has always existed, who had been with his Father in heaven, came here to us.*

Where was eternal life before it was manifested to John?

Eternal life was with the Father before it was manifested to John.

1 John 1:3

ULT	UST
what we have seen and heard, we declare also to you, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And indeed, our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.	*We want you to share life with us, and so we are proclaiming to you what we saw Jesus do and what we heard Jesus say. If you believe in him, you will share life, as we do, with God our Father and with his Son Jesus the Messiah.*

Why is John declaring what he has seen and heard?

John is declaring what he has seen and heard so that others may also have fellowship with him.

With whom does John already have fellowship?

John already has fellowship with the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:5

ULT	UST
And this is the message that we have heard from him and are announcing to you, that God is light, and darkness is not in him at all.	*The message that we heard from Jesus and are proclaiming to you is this: God always does what is right, and he never, ever does anything wrong. He is like a pure light in which there is no darkness at all.*

What is the message from God that John is announcing to his readers?

John is announcing the message that God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:6

ULT	UST
If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we are lying and we are not doing the truth.	*If we say that we share life with God, but we live in an evil manner, we are lying. We are not living truthfully. It is as though we are living in the dark.*

What does John say about a person who says he has fellowship with God, but walks in darkness?

John says that such a person is a liar and does not practice the truth.

1 John 1:7

ULT	UST
But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.	*But if we live in a pure manner, as God is pure in every way, then we can share life with each other. This is like living in God's pure light. Then God forgives all of our sin and accepts us because his Son Jesus died for us.*

What cleanses all the sin of those walking in the light?

The blood of Jesus cleanses them from all sin.

1 John 1:8

ULT	UST
If we say that we have no sin, we are leading ourselves astray, and the truth is not in us.	*If we say that we do not commit sin, we are fooling ourselves. We are refusing to believe the true things that God says about us.*

What do we do to ourselves if we say we have no sin?

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:9

ULT	UST
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous, that he should forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.	*But God always does what he says he will do, and what he does is always right. So if we admit to him that we have sinned and reject that sin, he will forgive us for our sins and he will free us from the guilt of everything that we have done wrong.*

What will God do for those who confess their sins?

For those who confess their sins, God will forgive their sins and cleanse them from all unrighteousness.

1 John 2

1 John 2:2

ULT	UST
And he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.	*Jesus is the one who sacrificed his life for us so that God could forgive our sins. And this is true not just of our sins, but of all the sins that all people everywhere have committed!*

For whom is Jesus Christ the propitiation for their sins?

Jesus Christ is the propitiation for the sins for the whole world.

1 John 2:3

ULT	UST
And in this we know that we have known him, if we keep his commandments.	*When we obey what God commands us to do, then we can be sure that we truly know God.*

How do we know that we have known Jesus Christ?

We know that we have known him if we keep his commandments.

1 John 2:4

ULT	UST
The one who says, "I know him," and is not keeping his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in this one.	*If someone says, "I know God well," but that person does not obey what God has commanded, then he is a liar. He is not living according to God's true message.*

What kind of person says he knows God, but does not keep God's commandments?

A liar says he knows God, but does not keep God's commandments.

1 John 2:6

ULT	UST
the one saying he remains in him ought, just as that one walked, also to walk himself.	*If anyone says that he is living closely with God, then he should conduct his life as Jesus did when he was here on earth.*

How should a person walk if he says he remains in Christ?

He should walk even as Jesus Christ walked.

1 John 2:9

ULT	UST
The one saying he is in the light and hating his brother is in the darkness until now.	*Someone might say that he is living in a good way, just as God wants him to do. That would be like living in light from God. But if he hates any of his fellow believers, then he is still living in a bad way, doing what God does not want, like a person who lives in darkness.*

What is the spiritual condition of someone who says he is in the light, but hates his brother?

Someone who says he is in the light, but hates his brother, is in the darkness.

1 John 2:11

ULT	UST
But the one hating his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.	*But anyone who hates a fellow believer is living in a completely wrong way. He does not understand how he should live, because the wrong things that he is doing are keeping him from understanding God's way. It is as though he is walking in darkness and cannot see where to go.*

What is the spiritual condition of someone who hates his brother?

Someone who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness.

1 John 2:12

ULT	UST
I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven because of his name.	*I am writing to you, whom I love as though you were my own children, because God has forgiven your sins because of what Jesus has done for you.*

Why does God forgive the sins of believers?

God forgives the sins of believers because of his name.

1 John 2:15

ULT	UST
Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.	*Do not desire to be like people who do not honor God. Do not desire the things that they want to have. If anyone desires to be like those people, he is proving that he does not love God the Father.*

What should the attitude of a believer be toward the things of the world?

A believer must not love the world nor the things of the world.

1 John 2:16

ULT	UST
For everything that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the arrogance of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.	*I say that such a person does not love God the Father because the way that ungodly people live is not the way that God our Father teaches us to live. They want to fulfill their physical desires. They want to get for themselves the things that they see. They boast about all of the things that they own. All of these things come from the selfish and ungodly way of thinking.*

What are three things that come from the world rather than from the Father?

The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the vain glory of life are from the world, and not from the Father.

1 John 2:18

ULT	UST
Young children, it is the last hour, and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, indeed now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.	*You who are as dear to me as though you were my own children, I want you to know that this is the time just before Jesus returns to earth. You have already heard that a person is coming who will strongly oppose the Messiah. In fact, many people like that, who are against the true Messiah, are already here. Because of this, we know that it is that time.*

What do we know about the Antichrist?

We know that he is coming.

How do we know that it is the last hour?

We know it is the last hour because many antichrists have come.

1 John 2:22

ULT	UST
Who is the liar if not the one denying that Jesus is the Christ? This one is the antichrist, the one denying the Father and the Son.	*The worst liars are the ones who deny that Jesus is the Messiah. All who do that are against the Messiah. They are refusing to believe both in God the Father and in Jesus his Son.*

How will we recognize the Antichrist?

The Antichrist will deny the Father and the Son.

1 John 2:23

ULT	UST
Everyone denying the Son does not have the Father. The one confessing the Son also has the Father.	*Those who refuse to acknowledge that Jesus is God's Son are in no way joined with God the Father. But those who acknowledge that Jesus is God's Son are also joined with God the Father.*

Can someone deny the Son and yet have the Father?

No, someone who denies the Son cannot have the Father.

1 John 2:24

ULT	UST
You, let remain in you what you have heard from the beginning. If what you have heard from the beginning remains in you, you will also remain in the Son and in the Father.	*Here is what you must do, unlike those people who deny Jesus. You must continue to believe and live by the truth about Jesus the Messiah that you first heard. If you continue to believe and live by the truth about Jesus the Messiah that you first heard, then you will continue to share life with Jesus the Son and God the Father.*

What must believers to do in order to remain in the Son and in the Father?

They must remain in what they have heard from the beginning.

1 John 2:25

ULT	UST
And this is the promise that he promised to us—eternal life.	*And what Jesus promised us is that God will enable us to live forever!*

What promise has been given the believers by God?

God has promised everlasting life to the believers.

1 John 2:28

ULT	UST
And now, little children, remain in him, so that whenever he appears, we may have boldness and not be put to shame by him at his coming.	*Now, my dear ones, I urge you to continue to live closely with Jesus. That way, when he comes back again, we will be confident that he will accept us. If we do that, we will not be ashamed to stand before him when he returns.*

What attitudes will we have when Christ appears if we remain in him?

If we remain in him, we will have boldness and will not be ashamed when Christ appears.

1 John 3

1 John 3:1

ULT	UST
See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God, and we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know him.	*Think about how much God our Father loves us! He says that we are his children. In a spiritual sense, this is completely true. That is why people who are unbelievers do not understand us. It is because they have not understood who God is, and we are like him just as children are like their parents.*

How has the Father expressed his love to believers?

He has made it possible for them to be called children of God.

1 John 3:2

ULT	UST
Beloved, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that whenever he appears, we will be like him because we will see him just as he is.	*Dear friends, at present we are God's spiritual children. He has not yet shown us what we will be in the future. However, we know that when Jesus comes back again, we will become like him because we will see him as he truly is.*

What will happen to believers when Christ is revealed?

When Christ is revealed, believers will be like Christ because they will see him as he is.

1 John 3:3

ULT	UST
And everyone having this hope upon him purifies himself, just as that one is pure.	*So all those who confidently expect to see Jesus as he truly is make themselves free from sin because Jesus himself is free from sin.*

What action concerning himself should be taken by every believer who hopes in Christ?

Every believer who hopes in Christ should purify himself.

1 John 3:5

ULT	UST
And you know that that one appeared so that he might take away sins, and sin is not in him.	*You know that Jesus came in order to make us free from our sins. You know also that he himself never sinned.*

What does Christ not have in himself?

Christ has no sin in himself.

1 John 3:6

ULT	UST
Everyone remaining in him does not sin. Everyone sinning has not seen him and has not known him.	*Those who share life with Jesus are the ones who do not continue sinning. But all those who continue to sin are the ones who have not understood who Jesus is and they do not really know him.*

If a person continues to sin, what does that tell us about their relationship to God?

It tells us they have neither seen Christ, nor known him.

1 John 3:8

ULT	UST
The one committing sin is from the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this reason the Son of God appeared, so that he might destroy the works of the devil.	*But anyone who continues to sin is behaving like the devil, because the devil has always been sinning, ever since the world began. The very reason that God's Son became a human being was to undo this work of the devil that kept people continually sinning.*

For what reason was the Son of God revealed?

The Son of God was revealed in order to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:9

ULT	UST
Everyone having been begotten from God does not commit sin, because his seed remains in him. And he is not able to sin, because he has been begotten from God.	*People do not continue sinning if they have become spiritual children of God because God has made them to be like him. They cannot continually sin, because they are God's spiritual children.*

Why is the one who is begotten from God not able to continue to sin?

He is not able to continue to sin because God's seed remains in him.

1 John 3:10

ULT	UST
In this the children of God and the children of the devil are apparent: Everyone not doing righteousness is not from God, and the one not loving his brother.	*People who belong to God are clearly different from people who belong to the devil. Those who do not do what is right do not belong to God. Those who do not love their fellow believers also do not belong to God.*

How are the children of the devil apparent?

The children of the devil are apparent because they do not do righteousness and they do not love their brother.

1 John 3:11

ULT	UST
For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,	*You should recognize this because the message that you heard when you first believed in Jesus is that we should love each other.*

What is the message that we have heard from the beginning?

The message is that we should love one another.

1 John 3:12

ULT	UST
not like Cain—he was from the evil one and killed his brother. And on account of what did he kill him? Because his works were evil, but those of his brother, righteous.	*We should not hate others as Adam's son Cain did. He belonged to Satan, that evil being. Cain murdered his younger brother Abel. I will tell you why he did that. It was because Cain behaved in an evil way, and he hated his younger brother because his younger brother behaved in the right way.*

How did Cain demonstrate that he was from the evil one?

Cain demonstrated that he was from the evil one by murdering his brother.

1 John 3:13

ULT	UST
Do not be amazed, brothers, if the world hates you.	*Therefore, my fellow believers, you should not be amazed when unbelievers hate you.*

What does John say should not amaze believers?

John says believers should not be amazed that the world hates them.

1 John 3:14

ULT	UST
We know that we have relocated from death into life, because we love the brothers. The one not loving remains in death.	*We love our fellow believers, and this assures us that God has made us spiritually alive. But if someone does not love other believers, then that person is still spiritually dead.*

What attitude demonstrates that we have relocated from death to life?

We know we have relocated from death to life because we love the brothers.

1 John 3:16

ULT	UST
In this we have known love, that that one laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.	*Jesus taught us how to truly love each other when he willingly died for us. For our part, we should also be willing to do anything for our fellow believers, even die for them.*

How have we known love?

We have known love because Christ laid down his life for us.

1 John 3:17

ULT	UST
But whoever has the possessions of the world and sees his brother having need and closes his entrails from him, how does the love of God remain in him?	*Many of us have the things that are necessary for life in this world. But suppose that we become aware that a fellow believer does not have what he needs. Suppose also that we refuse to provide for him. Then we are not loving him the way that God taught us to love people.*

What indicates that a person does not have the love of God in him?

When someone who is rich sees a brother in need, but does not help him, the love of God does not remain in that person.

1 John 3:18

ULT	UST
Little children, let us not love in word nor in tongue, but in deed and truth.	*You who are as dear to me as though you were my own children, let us not merely say that we love each other. Let us love each other genuinely by helping each other.*

What are two ways in which it is insufficient for us to love?

If is not enough for us to love only in word or tongue.

What are two ways in which we should love?

We should love in deed and in truth.

1 John 3:21

ULT	UST
Beloved, if the heart does not condemn, we have confidence toward God	*Dear friends, when we feel that God does not condemn us for having sinned, then we can pray confidently to God.*

What do we have if our heart does not condemn us?

If our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

1 John 3:23

ULT	UST
And this is his commandment: that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another just as he gave us a commandment.	*I will tell you what God commands us to do. We must trust in his Son, Jesus the Messiah. We must also love each other just as Jesus commanded us to do.*

What is the commandment that God has given to us?

God's commandment is that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another.

1 John 3:24

ULT	UST
And the one keeping his commandments remains in him, and he in him. And in this we know that he remains in us, from the Spirit whom he gave to us.	*The people who do what God commands share life with God, and God shares life with them. I will tell you how we can be sure that God is sharing life with us. We can be sure of that because we have God's Spirit, whom he gave to us.*

How do believers know that God remains in them?

God has given believers the Spirit so that they know God remains in them.

1 John 4

1 John 4:1

ULT	UST
Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.	*Dear friends, there are many people who have a false message, and they are going around teaching it to others. So do not trust every teacher. Instead, think carefully about what each teacher says and decide whether it came from God's Spirit or from a different spirit.*

Why should believers not believe every spirit?

They should not believe every spirit because there are many false prophets that have gone out into the world.

1 John 4:2

ULT	UST
In this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses Jesus Christ having come in the flesh is from God,	*I will tell you how to know if someone is teaching truth that comes from the Spirit of God or if he is not. Those who affirm that Jesus the Messiah came from God and became a human like us are teaching a message that is from God.*

How can you know the Spirit of God?

Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.

1 John 4:3

ULT	UST
and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. And this is that of the antichrist, which you have heard about, that it is coming, and it is now already in the world.	*But those who do not affirm that Jesus became a real human being are not teaching a message from God. They are teachers who oppose the Messiah. You have heard that people like that will be coming among us. Even now they are already here.*

What spirit does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh?

The spirit of an antichrist does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh.

1 John 4:4

ULT	UST
You are from God, little children, and you have overcome them because greater is the one in you than the one in the world.	*As for you who are as dear to me as though you were my own children, you belong to God, and you have rejected what those people teach. You have done this because God, who enables you to do what he wants, is more powerful than the devil, who motivates everyone who does not honor God.*

How are believers able to overcome spirits that are not from God?

We can overcome them because the spirit in us is greater than the one in the world.

1 John 4:7

ULT	UST
Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and everyone loving has been begotten from God and knows God.	*Dear friends, we must love each other. This is what God wants for us, and it is because he loves us that we can love others. Those who love their fellow believers have become God's spiritual children and know God well.*

Why should believers love one another?

Believers should love one another because love is from God, and the one who is begotten from God loves.

1 John 4:8

ULT	UST
The one not loving does not know God, for God is love.	*God's character is to love people. So whoever does not love others does not truly know God.*

How does the one who does not love demonstrate that he does not know God?

People who know God love because God is love.

1 John 4:9

ULT	UST
In this the love of God appeared among us, that God sent his Son, the One and Only, into the world so that we might live through him.	*I will tell you how God has shown us that he loves us. He sent his only Son to this earth so that his Son would enable us to live eternally because of what he did for us.*

How did God reveal his love for us?

God revealed his love for us by sending his only begotten Son into the world.

For what purpose did the Father send his Son?

The Father sent his Son so that we might live through him.

1 John 4:15

ULT	UST
Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God.	*So God continues to share life with those who say the truth about Jesus. They say, "Jesus is the Son of God." And so they continue to share life with God.*

If God remains in a person and he remains in God, what does that person confess about Jesus?

The person who remains in God confess that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 4:17

ULT	UST
In this, love has been perfected with us so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment because, just as that one is, we also are in this world.	*When we continue to share life with God, then God has achieved his purpose in loving us. As a result, when the time comes for God to judge us, we will be confident that he will not condemn us. This is because we are loving others as we live in this world just as Jesus is.*

What attitude will the love of God cause us to have on the day of judgment?

The love of God will cause us to have confidence on the day of judgment.

1 John 4:19

ULT	UST
We love because he first loved us.	*We love God and others because God loved us first.*

How are we able to love?

We love because God first loved us.

1 John 4:20

ULT	UST
If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar. For the one not loving his brother, whom he has seen, is not able to love God, whom he has not seen.	*People are lying if they say that they love God but they also hate a fellow believer. After all, we can see our fellow believers. But we have not seen God. So those who do not love one of their fellow believers certainly cannot be loving God, because it is much easier to love someone whom you can see than someone whom you cannot see.*

If someone hates his brother, what relationship does he have with God?

Someone who hates his brother is not able to love God.

1 John 4:21

ULT	UST
Indeed, we have this commandment from him, that the one loving God should also love his brother.	*Keep in mind that this is what God has commanded us: If we love him, we must also love our fellow believers.*

How should the one who loves God treat his brother?

The one who loves God should also love his brother.

1 John 5

1 John 5:3

ULT	UST
For this is the love of God, that we should keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.	*I am saying this because what loving God really means is that we do what he commands us to do. And it is not difficult to do what he commands us to do.*

How do we demonstrate that we love God?

We demonstrate that we love God when we keep his commandments.

1 John 5:4

ULT	UST
For everyone who has been begotten from God triumphs over the world. And this is the triumph that has triumphed over the world, our faith.	*Here is the reason why it is not difficult for us to do what God commands. All of us who have become God's spiritual children have been able to refuse to do what unbelievers want us to do. There is one reason why we are stronger than everything that is against God. It is because we trust in Jesus.*

What is the victory that has overcome the world?

Faith is the victory that has overcome the world.

1 John 5:6

ULT	UST
This is the one having come by water and blood: Jesus Christ—not in water alone, but in water and in blood. And the Spirit is the one testifying, because the Spirit is truth.	*Jesus the Messiah is the one who came to earth from God, experiencing both the water of his baptism and the blood of his death on the cross. God showed that he had truly sent Jesus not only when John baptized Jesus in water, but also when Jesus' blood flowed from his body when he died. And God's Spirit declares truthfully that Jesus the Messiah did these things, because the Spirit is completely truthful.*

By what two things did Jesus Christ come?

Jesus Christ came by water and by blood.

1 John 5:8

ULT	UST
the Spirit and the water and the blood, and the three are unto the one.	*Those three ways are: what God's Spirit tells us, what happened when John baptized Jesus in water, and what happened when Jesus' blood flowed from his body when he died on the cross. These three things all tell us the same thing, that Jesus came from God.*

What three things testify about Jesus Christ?

The Spirit, the water, and the blood all testify about Jesus Christ.

1 John 5:10

ULT	UST
The one believing in the Son of God has the testimony in him. The one not believing God has made him a liar because he has not believed in the testimony that God has testified about his Son.	*First, however, let me say that those who trust in the Son of God already know that what God says about him is true. But those who do not believe what God says are calling him a liar because they have refused to believe what God has testified about his Son.*

If someone does not believe the testimony of God concerning his Son, what do they make God to be?

Anyone who does not believe the testimony of God concerning his Son makes God to be a liar.

1 John 5:11

ULT	UST
And this is the testimony: that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.	*Now this is what God has told us about who his Son is: "I gave you eternal life, and my Son is the one who makes this life possible."*

What has God given us in his Son?

God has given us everlasting life in his Son.

1 John 5:14

ULT	UST
And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he listens to us.	*I also want you to know that we can be very confident that God wants to do what we ask of him when we pray for what he desires.*

What confidence do believers have before God?

Believers have confidence that if they ask anything according to God's will, he hears them.

1 John 5:16

ULT	UST
If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin not toward death, he will ask, and he will give him life, for the ones sinning not toward death. There is a sin toward death; I am not saying that he should pray about that.	*For example, suppose someone sees one of his fellow believers sinning in a way that would not separate him from God eternally. Then he should ask God to restore the one who is sinning. If he does that, then God will bring that person back into spiritual life with himself. However, I am saying this only about people who are sinning in a way that would not separate them from God eternally. There is sin that causes people to separate from God eternally. I am not saying that you should pray for people who are sinning in that way.*

What should a believer do when he sees his brother committing a sin not to death?

A believer who sees his brother committing a sin not to death should pray that God will give his brother life.

1 John 5:17

ULT	UST
All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not toward death.	*Every wrong thing that people do is a sin against God, but there are some sins that will not separate a person from God eternally.*

What is all unrighteousness?

All unrighteousness is sin.

1 John 5:19

ULT	UST
We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the evil one.	*We know that we belong to God. We also know that Satan, that evil being, is controlling all the people who are unbelievers.*

Where does the whole world lie?

The whole world lies in the evil one.

1 John 5:20

ULT	UST
But we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know the True One. And we are in the True One, in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.	*We also know that the Son of God has come among us and has made it possible for us to understand what is true. He did this so that we can truly know the genuine God. And we are sharing life with the genuine God, that is, with his Son, Jesus the Messiah. Jesus is truly God, and he is the one who gives us this new, eternal life.*

What is the result of the understanding that the Son of God has given to us?

Because of the understanding that the Son of God has given to us, we may know the True One.

1 John 5:21

ULT	UST
Little children, keep yourselves from the idols.	*I say this to you who are as dear to me as though you were my own children: “Be careful that you never give yourselves to anything that is a false god.”*

From what must believers keep themselves?

Believers must keep themselves from idols.