

“BY THIS” (έν τούτῳ) IN 1 JOHN

Compiled by Galen Currah, August 2019

Hypothesis 1: The phrase **έν τούτῳ** (en toutô) “by this” signals that the sentence consists of an effect and its cause. The Greek pattern = “by this” + an effect (e.g., to know, to manifest) + its cause (a clause, sometimes conditional).

2:3 **έν τούτῳ γινώσκομεν** ὅτι ἐγνώκαμεν αὐτόν, ἐάν τὰς ἐντολάς αὐτοῦ τηρῶμεν.

2:3 **By this we know** that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.

2:5-6 **έν τούτῳ γινώσκομεν** ὅτι ἐν αὐτῷ ἐσμεν· ὁ λέγων ἐν αὐτῷ μένει ὀφείλει καθὼς ἐκεῖνος περιεπάτησεν καὶ αὐτὸς περιπατεῖν.

2:5-6 **By this we may know** that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

3:10 **έν τούτῳ φανερά** ἐστὶν τὰ τέκνα τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ τὰ τέκνα τοῦ διαβόλου· πᾶς ὁ μὴ ποιῶν δικαιοσύνην οὐκ ἔστιν ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ, καὶ ὁ μὴ ἀγαπῶν τὸν ἀδελφὸν αὐτοῦ.

3:10 **By this it is evident** who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

3:16 **έν τούτῳ ἐγνώκαμεν** τὴν ἀγάπην, ὅτι ἐκεῖνος ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν τὴν ψυχὴν αὐτοῦ ἔθηκεν· καὶ ἡμεῖς ὀφείλομεν ὑπὲρ τῶν ἀδελφῶν τὰς ψυχὰς θεῖναι.

3:16 **By this we know** love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

3: 19-20 **έν τούτῳ γνωσόμεθα** ὅτι ἐκ τῆς ἀληθείας ἐσμέν, καὶ ἔμπροσθεν αὐτοῦ πείσομεν τὴν καρδίαν ἡμῶν, ὅτι ἐάν καταγινώσκη ἡμῶν ἡ καρδία, ὅτι μείζων ἐστὶν ὁ θεὸς τῆς καρδίας ἡμῶν καὶ γινώσκει πάντα.

3: 19-20 **By this we shall know** that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; 20 for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

3:24 καὶ **έν τούτῳ γινώσκομεν** ὅτι μένει ἐν ἡμῖν, ἐκ τοῦ πνεύματος οὗ ἡμῖν ἔδωκεν.

3:24 And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

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4:2 **έν τούτῳ γινώσκετε** τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ θεοῦ· πᾶν πνεῦμα ὃ ὁμολογεῖ Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν ἐν σαρκὶ ἐληλυθότα ἐκ τοῦ θεοῦ ἐστίν.

4:2 **By this you know** the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.

Hypothesis 2: The expression **ἐκ τούτου** (*ek toutou*) “from this” inverts the order. The Greek pattern = the cause + “from this” + its effect (e.g., to know).

4:6 ὁ γινώσκων τὸν θεὸν ἀκούει ἡμῶν... **ἐκ τούτου γινώσκομεν** τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς ἀληθείας καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς πλάνης.

4:6 Whoever knows God listens to us... **By this we know** the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

4:9 **έν τούτῳ ἐφανερώθη** ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ θεοῦ ἐν ἡμῖν, ὅτι τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ ἀπέσταλκεν ὁ θεὸς εἰς τὸν κόσμον ἵνα ζήσωμεν δι’ αὐτοῦ.

4:9 **In this** the love of God was **made manifest** among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

4:10 **έν τούτῳ ἐστίν** ἡ ἀγάπη, οὐχ ὅτι ἡμεῖς ἠγαπήκαμεν τὸν θεόν, ἀλλ’ ὅτι αὐτὸς ἠγάπησεν ἡμᾶς καὶ ἀπέστειλεν τὸν υἱὸν αὐτοῦ ἱλασμόν περὶ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν ἡμῶν.

4:10 **In this is** love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

4:17 **έν τούτῳ τετελείωται** ἡ ἀγάπη μεθ’ ἡμῶν, ἵνα παρρησίαν ἔχωμεν ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ τῆς κρίσεως.

4:17 **By this is** love **perfected** with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

5:2 **έν τούτῳ γινώσκομεν** ὅτι ἀγαπῶμεν τὰ τέκνα τοῦ θεοῦ, ὅταν τὸν θεὸν ἀγαπῶμεν καὶ τὰς ἐντολὰς αὐτοῦ ποιῶμεν.

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