The Book of 1st John Speaks to Christian Men about Assurance of Salvation

Week Four **Patrick R. Turner** **February 2005**

(Faith Baptist Church, 3411 Airport Rd., Waterford, Michigan, 48329, Sundays 6:00 to 7:00 pm – Room 12)

Introduction:

John 10:28-30 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father's hand. 30 I and *my* Father are one.

Author: John the Apostle Timing: 90-95AD Audience: The believers at the Church

The book of 1st John was written by John the Apostle because he was in an evangelical battle to keep pure the teaching of the Gospel. To keep Jesus center stage as the "Son of God" the "Christ" the true "Anointed One," and the Salvation of Man. John gives a direct and unambiguous picture of the saved believer's relationship with Jesus Christ. John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John is fighting the intellectuals in Ephesis as they are trying to challenge the deity of Jesus.

The underlying theme of the book is the proper mind set of believer toward Salvation. That is, sound attention to the basics of Christianity; faith, obedience, and love. These lead to happiness, holiness, and assurance.

Chapter Three

3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.
3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.
3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

1. What is it to be called the "sons of God?" Rom 8:14, Gal 3:26. What does it mean that the world "knew him not?" John 16:3, John 17:25. Discuss, "we shall be like him" and sanctification referring to v. 3.

① seed

② Jewish leaders rejected him, His own nation

③ Glorious Body

3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.
3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.
3:6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

2. Reconcile the above with the concept of God's forgiveness. Is John too being tough?

abideth

God's forgiveness is infinite

Is sin always of the devil

Choice flesh

3:7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.
3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

What fruits do you bear

3. Discuss what percentage/part of us is of the devil and what part is righteous. Why is it so?

ye shall be known by your fruits Mat 7:16-23, 1 John 3:3

3:8 ... we are imperfect and resemble sin or Satan, habitual sin is of satan

3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

Part: 23 incorruptable

4. Who is "born of God" and what does it mean that, "his seed remaineth in him?"

Something special abides in the heart of a true christian

① Jesus ② Part God + Part Man

① The true christian. ② God's holy spirit

once saved always saved

Make apparent / plain, open, not obscure

Choice of carry

3:10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.
3:11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
3:12 Not as Cain, *who* was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

5. First, define manifest. What is God's greatest commandment? What caused Cain to murder? How do we refine our lives to avoid going down that road?

Matt 22:37

① Made apparent, ② Love thy God Brotherly love. ③ He was of the world Jelosy ④ Be a servant Luk 6:35

Matt 22:36-40 Love God + Love thy neighbor 1 Tim 1:5

1 John 5:4,18

3:13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.
3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not *his* brother abideth in death.

Luk 6:22

Mar 13:13

Jam 4:4

2 Tim 3:12

6. Given the passage above, wherein should we seek and find joy? What "death" is spoken of here? Can you give a scriptural reference to support your answer?

1 John 4:18

① Kindom mentality - relationship with God

John 16:33 ② Matt 10:22 Matt 24:9

② Luk 15:24, John 5:29, Dead in sins, world 2 Cor 5:1

Eph 2:1 Hell, Eternal Damnation

3:15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.
3:16 Hereby perceive we the love *of God*, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.
3:17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

Deep emotion lower parts

(3) Matt 21:12,13 Mark 11:15-18 John 2:13-22

abhor loveless in scripture (1) detest malevolent (2) NO - instant displeasure - wrath

7. Pretty strong words from John/God here. Discuss hate, and what it takes to hate. Is anger the same as hate? Did Jesus ever get angry? If yes, under what circumstances? What does God hate? (3) yes-temple Mat 23 (4) Mark 3:5 withered (5)

hate unsparingly condemned

(5) Prov 6:16,19 Zec 8:17

> 3:18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.
> 3:19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.
> 3:20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.
> 3:21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, *then* have we confidence toward God.

8. (6) What does it mean to "assure our hearts before him?" Can we hide anything from God? (vs for thoughts and intents) Discuss how the passage above gives us a roadmap to assurance.

Heb 4:12

(1) persude him, allay any doubt (2) No Heb 6:10 a marathon - press toward the mark

(3) We + God knows our hearts, search it 2 Tim 1:12 Heb 11:13

> 3:22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

9. Discuss ~~the~~ how the second part of the verse impacts the first part.

Rom 4:21 Heb 10:22 John 9:31 Jam 5:16

- We get what we ask spiritually when we live in His will. God gives us the best things not worldly things

> 3:23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.
> 3:24 And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

John 14:1 17:3 Act 16:31

10. Discuss how the passage above tells us how simply we can have the "assurance of Salvation." How big a part does "Love" play in the proof of our Salvation?

(1) Rom 8:9-17 Abba father, heirs of God, glorified together
(2) God is Love, can't be saved without love.

Summary:

This Third chapter to the book of 1st John we are taught about God's greatest commandment toward brotherly love. We learn how our love of one another effects our love for God and His Son. Even in times of hardship, persecution, or attack, if we move with love, we become the ultimate Christian; that is Christ-like. Is an attitude of love toward everyone a priority in your life? Was it a priority in Christ's life? Phil x:xx ... I press toward a mark of the high calling of God, in Christ Jesus. Let us do the ordinary and then watch God do the extraordinary.

Thank you for attending,