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

Week Five **Patrick R. Turner** **March 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 teachings 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.

17:16 known them by their fruits 24:4 no man deceive you False Christs

Chapter Four

4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.
4:2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:
4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that *spirit* of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

John 16:13-15
1 Cor 12:13
4:3 – 2Th 2:8

False Prophet

1. What spirits are being discussed here? Deu 13:1-5, Mat 7:15 (16) 24:4, (23-26) When and how do we face them today? 1 Tim 4:1 Relate these spirits to your own minds?

seducing spirits

① False prophets, False Doctrines, Temptations, Doubts, thy them via Gods word ② Every day, the world, the flesh, doubts

Spirit of truth

4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

2. Who is in us? Give a compelling reason why we should rejoice. John 10:28-30, (4:17-23) (2Cor 4:4) - god of this world blinds us

I give them eternal life, shall never perish no pluck

① Holy Spirit ② All things are possible through Jesus.

One of the coolest scripture, one of the most powerful.

One of the most reassuring

4:5 They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them.
4:6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

Mat 18:1-3 WHO IS GREATEST LITTLE CHILDREN

3. Who is of the world? 1 Cor 1:18, 2:14. Discuss the spirit of error. James 1:19-21

Satan, Devil, Non-Believers / Gospel is foolishness to non-believers

swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath... Forgive!

4:7 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.
4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

God's mercy + love

4. Define love. Mark 12:28-34, John 21:15-17. Discuss agapa, phileo, and eros love. Eph 2:4, Heb 12:29

unconditional mechanical — brotherly affection — erotic sexual

① Commitment Greatest Commandment - Love God - Brotherly Love

God is a consuming fire, Love is not an emotion or feeling

"falling" in/out of love is ridiculous

4:9 In this was manifested [made clear] the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.
4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation (xxx) for our sins.

Says it all!

5. Discuss the truth of the phrase, "God is love." Refer to John 3:16, Rom 8:39, Deu 7:9, Mic 6:8

walk humbly with thy God — AVERT ANGER Winning favor — No separation from God's love — Keep His covenant + you get eternal life

Would you send your son to save someone, that someone being disobedient to you?

4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.
4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.
4:13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.
4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son *to be* the Savior of the world.

King eternal, Invisible

No man has seen God @ any time

6. Explain, "No man has seed God at any time." Gen 32:20, Exo 33:20, John 1:18, 1 Tim 1:17. Briefly tell how we dwell in Him? Discuss what it means to testify.

Jacob see God — No man can see me + live

- We need to make love + forgiveness automatic.
- If

> 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.
> 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.
> 4:17 Herein is our love made perfect [finished, complete, reach the end], that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

7. How do we confess? Discuss how you are feeling about your salvation. What is expected of us once we are saved? Mat 10:32, Rom 10:9, James 2:22, 2 John 1:7

① personally, detail ② Seek his will keep his commands we are save

> 4:18 There is no fear in love; but **perfect love** casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

8. WOW! Where does the joy of the saved, the true believer come from? Luk 1:74, Rom 8:15, James 2:19. Describe the joy you have in the knowledge you are Saved.

devils believe + tremble

> 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.
> 4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?
> 4:21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

9. As Saved persons the Holy Spirit works on our heart in ever situation to show love to even our enemies. Why? Is it ever possible to find comfort in this? Luk 7:47, 2 Cor 5:15, John 13:34,35, 15:12,15

If we have confessed, at what point do we know, we know we are saved.

All we must do is the ordinary and God will do the extraordinary!

Summary:

This forth chapter to the book of 1st John again warns us regarding false prophets, preachers. We should seek a personal relationship with God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit and listen to their conviction on our heart. Then we will find our proper place in the world, insulation from false doctrines, and contentment in a world where we are outcasts and misfits. At that point we can more easily see ourselves as servants to our brothers in a way that honors our God in all we do. Our goal should be reflective of Matthew 25:23.

Thank you for attending,
Pat Turner