

1st, 2nd & 3rd John

#5, distinction, I Jn 3:1-24

Last lesson we looked at the verses from 1 John 2:26-27, These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you. 27 As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.

Though written over two thousand years ago, it is still true today and probably worse! The deceivers are still out there, coming to us from all directions and sources. There are self proclaimed experts in every field and their message of the creator continues to be totally false. John named the source of truth for God's children, which, is the ministry of the Holy Spirit in each life. Now we just have to make use of it!

1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

4 Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness. 5 You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin. 6 No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him. 7 Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; 8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

[1.] v:1, called children of God, Here scripture tell believers that God is their father. However it also says they have two fathers. Who is the other one?

[2.] v:1 again, the world does not know us, The reason for this is given in this verse and also was studied in the last lesson, question [4.]. In your own words write down why the world does not know God.

[3.] v:3, purifies himself, In your own words jot down how a person does this, not only to their flesh, but also to their thinking? (hint Phil 4:6-9)

[4.] v:4-8, practices sin, Suppose you are writing a S.S. lesson or a sermon using this phrase. What would be some things that you say?

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9 No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

10 By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.

11 For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another; 12 not as Cain, who was of the evil one and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous.

13 Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you. 14 We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death. 15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

[5.]v:9, His seed abides in him, **Expand on this statement and explain how it can be so.**

[6.] v:10, children, **This verse mentions two kinds of children. How does one become a child of God?**

[7.] v:10 again, children, **How does one become a child of the devil?**

[8.] v:10 again, children, **Give some examples of not practicing righteousness and not loving your brother.**

[9.] v:11-12, the evil one, **Give a brief synopsis of the account of Cain and his brother and include what it means to be of "the evil one".**

[10.] v:13, Do not be surprised, **What do you suppose the believers were experiencing from some they had attended worship services with?**

[11.] v:13-15, brethren, brother, **Define the Biblical meaning of these words used in these verses.**

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16 We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

17 But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?

18 Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth. 19 We will know by this that we are of the truth, and will assure our heart before Him 20 in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart and knows all things.

[12.] v:13-15 again, Everyone who hates his brother, This must have been as confusing to the early believers as it is to us now. Describe how God's word separates people.

[13.] v:16, We know love by this, What example of love has God's word given to all Christians for all time?

[14. v:17, whoever has the world's goods, How does your congregation provide opportunity for you to help those in need?

[15.] v:17 again, closes his heart against him, Considering this phrase, what if the brother needs a helping hand with a project or ministry. Does this count? If not, why not?

[16.] v:18-20, in deed and truth, How can we be sure that our heart is not playing tricks on us?

[17.] v:18-20 again, Referring to question [16.] Why is it of sovereign importance not to let our hearts get hardened?

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21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; 22 and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.

23 This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. 24 The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

[18.] v:18-20 again, and will assure our heart, List some efficient ways to allow our heart to become hardened?

[19. v:21-22, What do these verses say that explains to us the reason why our prayers are not answered?

[20.] v:23-24, This is His commandment, How can we know that we abide in Christ?

[21.] v:23-24 again, This is His commandment, How can we know that God abides in us?

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