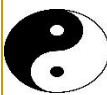


**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

	Rod's Approach	Lifeway's Approach
1) 07 June	1John 1	1John 1:1-4..... <b>The Truth Presented</b>
2) 14 June	1John 2	1John 1:5-2:6.....Walking in the Light
3) 21 June	1John 3	1John 2:15-27.....Dangers to Avoid
4) 28 June	1John 4	1John 4:1-6.....Is This of God?
5) 05 July	1John 5	1John 4:7-21.....Real Love
6) 12 July	2 <sup>nd</sup> John & 3 <sup>rd</sup> John	1John 5:1-12.....Jesus Alone
7) 19 July	Rev 1	Rev 1:1-8.....Jesus' Revelation
8) 26 July	Rev 2-3	Rev 2:7-3:21.....Let Them Hear
9) 02 August	Rev 4-6	Rev 4:1-11.....Glimpse of the Throne
10) 09 August	Rev 7-13	Rev 5:1-14.....The Worthy Lamb
11) 16 August	Rev 14-17	Rev 9:1-12.....Redeeming Judgment
12) 23 August	Rev 18	Rev 12:1-17.....Jesus Defeats Satan
13) 30 August	Rev 19-22	Rev 21:1-7.....The Final Act

**INTRODUCTION**

- **Apologies.** Since I am a stickler of expository teaching, I am going to deviate some from Lifeway's "targeted" approach and tackle all the chapters in a more thorough fashion, and I hope I do it justice. You can see my mapping to Lifeway's mapping above.
- John conveys to his readers in this mighty little book that God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, wants to bless us, use us, love us, forgive us, show us, and to take us for His own
- John was acting as a problem solver in this 1<sup>st</sup> epistle by addresses the following issues:
  1. The church was in conflict over various doctrinal issue
  2. The primary concern was "who is or was Jesus"
  3. The false teachers tried to separate ethics from doctrine

Passage	Comments
	3. Life gets better each and every day as we have a chance to mature in the Lord, even while being persecuted or suffering a loss 4. We are able to reap more & more eternal rewards each and every day as we live & obey 5. God is out to do us good and not evil each and every day 6. God watches our every step so all things will work together for our good in every situation 7. We are victors, not victims, conquerors, not conquests 8. No trouble or loss or failure can remove us from God's love 9. From the moment of salvation we become His child, His friend, and a joint heir with Christ
1:5-10	<b>God is Light</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv5-7. Light in this context could also mean mental comprehension or illumination or inspiration – aspects which Satan cannot provide</li> <li>• v8. Yes, Christians can and do sin                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ The difference between us and non-Christians is that we are forgiven sinners</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v9. One of the all-time favorite passages EVER                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ God would rather forgive than discipline</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v10. Whenever we make excuses for our sins, we basically call God a liar</li> </ul>
	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many humanists / secularist often compare light and darkness, good and evil, God and Satan, as on par with each other; that they are equal, but opposite</li> <li>• BUT, there is no such comparison since light is far superior to darkness, good is far superior to evil, and God is far superior to Satan</li> <li>• <b>Rust Analogy.</b> Take a mint condition 1957 Chevy. Add some rust to it and you still got a Chevy. Remove the Chevy, and you have no rust</li> <li>• IOW, Good can exist without Evil, but Evil cannot exist without Good; God can exist without Satan, but Satan cannot exist without God; and darkness only exists because God had to create it (<a href="#">Ps 104:20</a>)</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
1John 1:1-3	<b>Eternal Life is Available &amp; Evident – No Guessing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John and the other Apostles and early disciples "heard", "saw", "investigated", and "touched" the living Christ                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ End result of their One-of-a-Kind experiences:                                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Eternal life is evident through their 1<sup>st</sup> hand evidence (hear, see, touch, experience)</li> <li>2. We can now enjoy "fellowship" with God and with our Savior because of the truth of their witness</li> </ol> </li> <li>♦ Note...John and the others who physically heard–saw–investigated–touched the resurrected Messiah are no longer having such experiences, and neither is anyone else</li> <li>♦ John's experiences are now confirmed for us for all time. They need not be repeated..... <a href="#">Heb 2:3,4</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Is "Fellowship" w/ God Mystical? Mysterious? Magical? or Definable?	Our "fellowship" with God is quite definable, though it is not very tangible. IOW, we cannot physically "hear", "see", or "touch" God's Son as the early Disciples did. Those who say they can physically hear, see, and touch God don't know God or His word. We fellowship with God through the reading of His word, praying, worshiping, and experiencing His providential guidance and provisions. Feelings of joy and excitement may follow our fellowshiping as we comprehend His presence through realizing the truth of His word and experiencing His many wonderful blessings.
1:4	<b>These Things are Written to Make You Joyful</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If anyone should be happy, joyful, and excited under all conditions in this life it should be us Christians                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are saved to the "utmost" – Heaven is guaranteed for us</li> <li>2. God is out to meet our needs every day</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- We see John setting up a powerful argument, which cannot be refuted – Jesus is real, God is real, sin is real, Christians sin, Christians are easily forgiven, and by it we have not only an abundant or purposeful life but also eternal life NOW – NOT Later
  - ♦ Is that worth getting excited about??

**NEXT WEEK: 1John 2.** Can Christians sin? Can Christians lose their salvation? Can Christians love a life of sin?

