

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 07 June.....	1John 1
2) 14 June.....	1John 2
3) 21 June.....	1John 3
4) 28 June.....	1John 4
5) 05 July.....	1John 5
6) 12 July.....	2 nd John & 3 rd John
7) 19 July.....	Rev 1
8) 26 July.....	Rev 2-3
9) 02 August.....	Rev 4-6
10) 09 August.....	Rev 7-13
11) 16 August.....	Rev 14-17
12) 23 August.....	Rev 18
13) 30 August.....	Rev 19-22

INTRODUCTION

- Can Christians sin? Can Christians lose their salvation? Can Christians love a life of sin? According to John, YES – NO – NO
- A side issue is what to do with those who forsake church? Are they false teachers who leave under duress, or are they bewildered sheep? Do we entice them to come back casually or fervently?

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some reasons people leave church include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. False or unfamiliar teachings 2. Not able to fit in or they were convicted of sin 3. They got offended by someone or something 4. Their spiritual, mental, emotional or other needs not met 5. They couldn't find a mate or someone in their social group 6. Other reasons? • When is it NOT appropriate to chase after wayward sheep? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When they act divisively or unruly Rom 16:17 Even God can't manage "stubborn cows" Hos 4:16 • When is it appropriate to leave a church? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abhorrent teachings Rm 16:17,18; 2Thes 3:6,14,15; 2Cor 6:14; Rev 2:14-16 2. Differing Philosophies Acts 15:39 3. Judgment Jer 51:45 4. They defame you (hostile environment) Prov 14:7; Mt 10:23; Acts 9:24,25; 18:6; 19:9 5. Other reasons
	<p>CAUTION ON DROPPING OUT OF CHURCH FRIVOLOUSLY. Some churches in Revelations 2-3 were noted for severe problems such as being dead (Sardis); lacking love (Ephesus), holding to false doctrines (Pergamum); tolerating immorality (Thyatira), and having wealth but no zeal (Laodicea); – Yet, Christ acknowledged them as His Church, and He applauded the true believers who were in them for hanging tough and remaining faithful</p>
1John 2:1-2	<p>Can we Sin, Do we Sin, Should we Sin, Will We Sin?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John is quite blunt – He writes to show that we should not sin – and if we do, Jesus has got our back • v2. Jesus is the propitiation for our sins and the sins of the whole world – This includes elect & non-elect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This is not universal salvation where everyone is automatically saved, BUT that Jesus made it possible for everyone to be saved if everyone wanted to be saved. ♦ But recall that the non-elect are not willing to come to Christ. They would rather spend an eternity in Hell than 1 minute with a holy God John 5:40
2:3-6	<p>If One Disobeys, Are They Saved?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v6. Is it possible for a saved individual to be caught up in sin and sinful addictions? Yes, unfortunately <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ We "ought" not or we should not sin. Literally, we "owe" Christ our allegiance. The mind has to be renewed, & it begins with our willingness .. Eph 4:23 ♦ We might have to come along side of a weaker brother or sister and help them Gal 6:1
2:7-11	<p>If One Hates Their Brother, Are They Saved?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would a Christian show hatred for a spiritual sibling? What makes a believer despise a believer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Would you give him the time of day? ♦ If he was drowning would you toss him an anchor? ♦ If he was thirsty, would you give him salt water? • Are there any we should despise? Or should we love believers and non-believers alike?
2:12-17	<p>If One Loves the World, Are They Saved?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the significance for writing specifically to the Fathers and Young Men? Could this be inclusive of Mothers and Young Women as well? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Consider this...John's emphasis is of older believers intimately knowing God through worldly trials, and young believers ("young men" and "little children") successfully going through worldly trials ♦ Yes, Christians can fall in love with "shiny things"
2:18-19	<p>If They Left Us, Are They Saved?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Here's the kicker – "They were not of us" • A key trait of a born-again believer is our God-given endurance Mat 24: 13; 1Cor 10:13; 2Tim 2:12
2:20-27	<p>If They Deny Christ, Are They Saved?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v20. "...we know ALL things." – A better rendition is "...we all have the same knowledge, the same Spirit." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ IOW, someone can't say "I am holier than you because I speak in tongues" ♦ We all have the same Spirit, the same foundation, so, therefore, we are all equal • The "antichrist" appears only 5x in the NT, and only in John's letters (2:18, 22; 4:3; 2John 1:7) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Paul used the term "man of lawlessness" and "son of perdition" (2Thes 2:3)
2:28-29	<p>Conclusion – Abide in Christ for Salvation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v29. Are people like Mother Theresa and others belonging to other religious camps saved? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ According to this vs they are – "If they practice righteousness, they are born of Him" - PTL

NEXT WEEK: 1John 3. More great passages on eternal security and the willingness of God to answer our prayers – if we abide in Him

