

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

- “These things are written for us that we might know we have eternal life” Assurance of salvation and of God’s approval brings such wonderful comfort, confidence, and joy

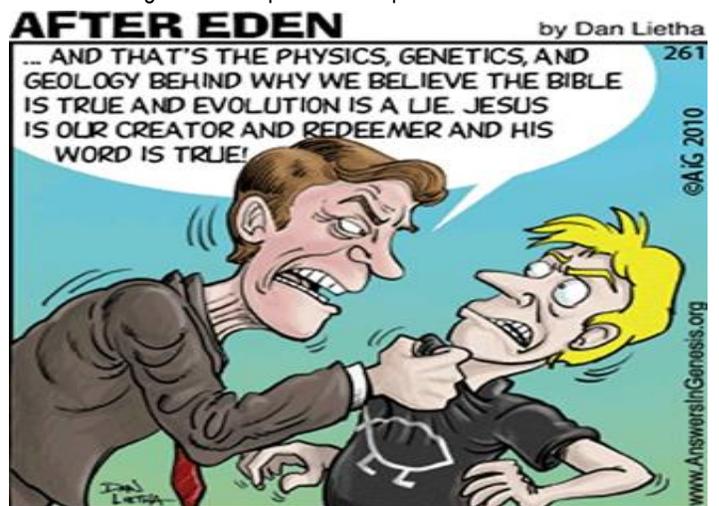
Passage	Comments
1John 5:1-12	<p>What is the Test for Salvation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-5. So, love (agape) is the key to knowing we are saved. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Love of what or whom? <input type="checkbox"/> Possessions <input type="checkbox"/> Believers <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Believers <input type="checkbox"/> God’s Word <input type="checkbox"/> _____ • v6. What does it mean to come by water and blood? <input type="checkbox"/> Birth & Death <input type="checkbox"/> Baptism & Death <input type="checkbox"/> Does it matter? • vv7-8. These vss differ substantially between KJV and others (NASB, NIV, ESV). KJV adds in v7 “the Father, the Word (Son), and the Holy Ghost:” SO, who’s correct? Note. The added words in the KJV are not found in ANY Greek manuscripts or NT translations prior to the 16th cent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The Message Bible says this (v7) “<i>the Spirit, the Baptism, the Crucifixion. And the three (are) in perfect agreement.</i>” - If this is the intended meaning, what is John conveying?
5:13-15	<p>Can we Really Get EVERYTHING We Pray For?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YES, ABSOLUTELY. Assuming, of course, we are praying in God’s will, and His will is knowable – which it is • We are commanded to know God’s will, and we are commanded to pray, and these things are written that we may KNOW without a shadow of doubt • So, why do we fail to get prayers answered as we should? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Often we pray amiss, we have unconfessed sin, and we pray frivolously instead of fervently
5:16-17	<p>What is the Sin Leading Unto Death?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Scholars are all over the map with this one. If sin is sin, what differentiates between sin that leads unto death and sin that leads not unto death? • First of all, the phrase “sin is sin” is not biblical. Since God differentiates between sins, so should we <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ In the OT, sins of ignorance warranted making atoning sacrifices to restore God’s favor; BUT sins of defiance warranted the immediate death penalty – There was no chance for a sacrifice, repentance, or forgiveness to make things right Num 15:22-31 ♦ Also in the OT, we see God telling Jeremiah not to pray for the unrepentant Jews, because God was not going to answer such prayers Jer 7:16 ♦ In the NT, we virtually see all sins being forgivable (e.g., murder, child molestation, other immorality); EXCEPT for “blaspheme of the Holy Spirit” which we take it to mean rejection of Christ’s atonement on the Cross Mark 3:29 ♦ Other sins in the NT that require different treatment are unrepentant behavior as we see in 1Cor 5, of a presumed believer who sleeps with his step-mom; BUT that sin, as bad as it is, led to expulsion from the church & not the loss of salvation or an early physical death • We can logically assume then the sin that leads to death is willful rejection of Christ (aka, blaspheme of the Holy Spirit)

Passage	Comments
The Point of No Return	<p>Consider This. Just as some can accept Christ early in life at a specific point in time and be sealed from that point forward, others can reject Christ early in life at a specific point in time and doom themselves to Hell from that point forward (Rom 1:24, 28; 1Cor 1:18; 2Cor 4:3-4; Heb 6:4-6; Heb 10:26; 2Pet 2:20-22; 1Jn 2:19)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ See lesson on John 12 for more on this topic ♦ In contrast, Pastor David Jeremiah (TV preacher) believes no one today is able to commit blaspheme of the Holy Spirit. It could only be committed by the religious leaders who actually witnessed Jesus’ miracles and who repeatedly made the claim that He was of Satan
5:18-20	<p>Are We Really Protected From the “Evil One?”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 out of 12 Apostles, church tradition tells us, were martyred, along with countless other disciples • Scripture also tells us that Satan afflicted righteous people such as Job, King David, and countless others • Even the righteous are slain 2Sam 4:11 (e.g., the recent massacre of 9 Christians in a church in SC) • Do we have a contradiction? NO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ We just have to understand the wider context of God’s protection of His children – it is not always from physical, emotional, and mental harm, which is only temporal – but from eternal harm. God even allowed His own Son to die ♦ Satan cannot pull us out of the arms of God
5:21	<p>What is the ONE KEY Secret to Success? →“KEEP YOURSELVES FROM IDOLS” ←</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you think about it, if we stay focused on the one true God, then we won’t be distracted by all the idols the world has to offer, such as Power, Fame, Fortune, Beauty, Food, Drugs, Drink, TV, Internet, Immorality • If we have no idols in our life, then God can bless us mightily – not necessarily with things of this temporal world, but true eternal riches found only in Jesus Christ, such as God’s Wisdom, Fruit of the Spirit, and Changed Lives

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- John’s readers in the 1st century came up short on having sound doctrine. Therefore they were prone to follow whatever was shiny
- They also fell short on understanding very basic teachings on love, forgiveness, and the deity of Jesus Christ – Which meant they probably had many unsaved in their fellowship
- At least they were eager to learn...and so should we be

NEXT WEEK: 2John-3John. Only when we find agreement on sound doctrine through love and discernment will we find meaningful fellowship and worship



“...if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not LOVE, I am nothing. 1Corinthians 13:2