

Sermon #3 First John...WORD??

Hermeneutics and Hermeneutical teaching verses OPINION:

1. **OBSERVATION-What do I SEE?** (Key words, personal pronouns, speaker, audience, etc. while asking lots of questions of the text allowing Scripture to interpret Scripture)
2. **CONTEXTUALIZATION-What SURROUNDS?** (What comes before and after a verse or passage so it is NOT taken out of context!)
3. **CORRELATION-OTHER CLEAR Scripture?** (This is important AFTER considering the primary text and other passages must also be used in their OWN context and NOT contradict other passages in Bible.)
4. **INTERPRETATION-What does it MEAN?** (Meaning CANNOT be determined apart or before previous steps, IE. What did it mean to the original audience first, so you don't make up your own meaning!)
5. **APPLICATION-How does this APPLY to me?** (Application can be personal to each believer through the Holy Spirit, but must NOT contradict the truth of Scripture!)
6. **TRANSFORMATION-How does this CHANGE me?** (With God's Truth fully and correctly understood, allow the Holy Spirit to assist you in your spiritual growth, so you read and study God's Word with purpose.

LAST WEEK'S TEXT

1 John 1:1 What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life — ² and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was *with the Father* and was manifested to us — ³ what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have **fellowship** with us; and indeed our **fellowship** is *with the Father*, and *with His Son* Jesus Christ. ⁴ These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete. **(THIS IS INTRODUCTION OF KOINONIA)**

THIS WEEK'S TEXT (Continuation of KOINONIA)

1 John 1:5 This is the message *we* have heard from *Him* (Jesus) and announce to *you*, that **God** (The Father) *is Light*, and in *Him* **there is no darkness at all**. ⁶ If *we* say that *we* have **fellowship** with *Him* and yet **walk in the darkness**, *we* lie and do not practice the truth; ⁷ **but** if *we* walk in the Light as *He Himself* (Jesus) *is in* the Light, *we* have **fellowship** with one another, **and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin**. ⁸ If *we* say that we have no sin, **we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us**. ⁹ If *we* confess our sins, *He* is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If *we* say that *we* have not sinned, **we make Him a liar and His word is not in us**. **1John 2:1** *My little children*, *I* am writing **these things** to *you* so that **you may not sin**. **And if anyone** sins, *we* have **an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous**; ² and *He Himself* is the **propitiation** for *our* sins; **and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world**.

Now let's break down this text even further....

THIS IS AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE ELITE INNER CIRCLE OF THE APOSTLES WHO HAD FIRST HAND INTIMACY OR KOINONEA FELLOWSHIP WITH FATHER GOD AND THE LIVING LIGHT OF THE WORLD...JESUS (WHO SAID HIMSELF, "IF YOU HAVE SEEN ME, YOU HAVE SEEN THE FATHER"...I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!)

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from Him (Jesus) and announce to you, that God(Jesus) is Light, and in Him (Father) there is no darkness at all.

FATHER GOD AND HIS SON JESUS WHO IS "IN" THE FATHER ARE 100% HOLY, 100% LIGHT, 100% PURE, AND THERE IS NOT A SPECK OF ANY DARKNESS OF ANY KIND IN EITHER THE FATHER OR THE SON!

God is the benchmark of perfection and He is OPPOSITE OF Darkness. God AS Light is Holy, He is a sanitizer...

Where everything dark is the absence of Light and the absence of God Himself, it is where evil dwells and sin germinates.

God is Omniscient...Our limited perspective only allows us to see what is happening in front of us.

We have no ability to see what's coming next...AND the greatest reason why you need to immerse yourself in God's Word!!!!.....**Wouldn't you like to know what's coming next, if it meant keeping you from stepping off a cliff into a dark pit? YOU CAN IF....**

Psa. 119:105 *Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.*

STEVE EXPLAIN...How God's Word keeps me from stumbling...Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger!

⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

As a believer you can at any time choose to NOT ABIDE in the light...

How many times have you or other believers said they are in FELLOWSHIP with Jesus, while practicing sin under the cover of DARKNESS, AND even worse, lying to ourselves and covering up the truth of God by saying things like...

"It's all *their* fault"

"I have a good reason to be mad at them"

"I'm never going to forgive them for that"

"I hate _____" and share it with another person...

If you say you are ONE WITH GOD and are NOT dwelling (Abiding) in the Light of Jesus but walking in the darkness of sin...John is simply calling you out as a liar, as you cannot have koinonia with Jesus at the same time you are walking apart from Him in DARKNESS...AND, As we'll soon see, This is a test of fellowship with others as well!

POINT: While this text has NOTHING to do with your salvation, it certainly means you are not practicing the truth of your sanctification!

⁷ but if we walk in the Light (FATHER) as He Himself (JESUS) is in the Light (FATHER), we have fellowship (Koinonia) with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

JOHN 8:12 *Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, 'I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in the darkness...*

POINT: IF WE WALK IN THE LIGHT OF GOD THE FATHER AND JESUS HIS SON, (who is also the LIGHT OF THE WORLD), IT ENSURES 3 THINGS WILL HAPPEN:

1. We have FELLOWSHIP or Koinonia or Oneness with other believers
2. We are in a **CONSTANT** state of confessing our sins to God as HIS LIGHT constantly keeps our pride and other sins in check

3. The “Blood” of Jesus **CONSTANTLY** cleanses us from **ALL** sin, **SO THAT** our fellowship with God The Father remains close!

“Cleanses us” is a **continual** (GK. Pres, Act tense) **forgiveness** as walking in the light brings to light other sins you may not have been aware of that need forgiveness as well.

Zane Hodges offers this, and I quote *“It is true, of course, that all Christians have already been cleansed (1 Cor. 6:11) and have full forgiveness in Christ (Eph. 1:7). But as verse 7 and 9 makes clear, there is an ongoing forgiveness that occurs as part of the Father/child relationship. So, too, there is an ongoing cleansing based on Christ’s blood which enables imperfect children like ourselves to have a genuine experience of sharing with a perfectly holy heavenly Father. Thus, every moment of FELLOWSHIP with the living God is a moment bought for us by the precious BLOOD of God’s sacrificial Lamb, Jesus.*

⁸ *If **we** say that we have no sin, **we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.*** ⁹ *If **we** confess our sins, **He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

¹⁰ *If **we** say that **we** have not sinned, **we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.***

The “Truth” John is speaking of is the “TRUTH” of God’s Word that is not in us, even if we are reading it on a daily basis, because we are NOT living according to His Word.

This is what prompted James to write...

James 1:22 *But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.*

DON'T MISS THIS IN VERSE 9: John tells something we cannot forget about God...**HE IS FAITHFUL!**

The Apostle Paul reminds us of this Truth About God...

2 Tim. 2:13 *“if we are faithless, He is faithful, for He cannot deny Himself”!*

1. **God is FAITHFUL** to His OWN CHARACTER
2. **God is FAITHFUL** to KEEP US SECURELY SAVED, **BUT**, our security is **NEVER** an excuse to be faithless
3. **God is FAITHFUL** to constantly forgive us and clean us w/His righteousness
4. **God is FAITHFUL** in His desire to have fellowship with us, no matter what we may have done or what we do and has provided the only solution for the unworthy to fellowship with the Holy Almighty, at-all-times (Our Confession of sin)

1John 2:1 *My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;*

Don't Miss...MY LITTLE CHILDREN....!!!! This leaves little doubt, John is talking to believers and writing to believers!!!!...AND at the same time reminding us of our “Special” relationship with our heavenly Father!

an Advocate (“parakletos”=intercessor) **with the Father**...*Jesus, the righteous is always speaking on our behalf to the Father...”Father, I paid for that sin too” ☺*

1John 2:2 and **He Himself** (Jesus) **is the propitiation** (Full payment or Substitutionary sacrifice), **for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.**

Steve Explain: Sufficient/Efficient or Effective

COMMUNION *1John 2:2 and He Himself is the propitiation* (Full payment or Substitutionary sacrifice), *for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world*

HOW TO ENSURE WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP OR "KOINONEA" WITH GOD

1. **To have fellowship with God**, we have faith in Christ (must be a believer)
 2. **To have fellowship with God**, we listen and obey the Holy Spirit living in us
 3. **To have fellowship with God**, we must abide in His Word (The Bible)
 4. **To have fellowship with God**, we must not put the World above Him (1:6, 8, 10)
 5. **To have fellowship with God**, we must not deny sin in our life and make it a practice of confessing our sin to Him (Sin is a barrier between ourselves and God)
 6. **To have fellowship with God** requires us to LOVE OTHERS as God loves each of us
 7. **To have fellowship with God**, we must engage in REGULAR *fellowship* at a local church WITH OTHER BELIEVERS
- In Short, we must be disciples of Jesus, NOT merely a believer....**