

# Joyful Life Bible Studies

I John 2:24-29

Lesson 13

## FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Our encounter with these false teachers in I John 2: 18-23 has heightened our awareness of the danger of not abiding in Christ. What have you learned from this passage regarding *antichrists* in the church?
  - a. What did these antichrists refuse to believe about Jesus Christ?
  - a. What do true Christians believe about Jesus Christ?
    - 1.) Why is this so important?
  - b. What do Christians have that enable them to *know the truth*?
2. Note and mark the paragraph divisions in I John 2:24-29 as follows and give a brief title to each:
  - a. I John 2:24, 25
  - b. I John 2:26, 27
  - c. I John 2:28, 29
    - 1.) Having distinguished between the false teachers and the true believers. and having described the character and consequence of heresy. John now draws attention to the two safeguards which will protect believers from being led astray. According to the following verses, if we are to guard against error, what two things must *remain (abide)* in the believer:
      - (a.) I John 2:24a
      - (b.) I John 2:27a
3. Begin this lesson by meditating on the incredible gift we have in the *anointing* of the Holy Spirit. Take a moment to thank the Lord for this *unction* and for placing within you this wonderful *Teacher*. Write your prayer here.

*Without the present illumination of the Holy Spirit, the Word of God must remain a dead letter to every man, no matter how intelligent or well-educated he may be.... It is just as essential for the Holy Spirit to reveal the truth of Scripture to the reader today as it was necessary for Him to inspire the writer in their day.*

*William Law*

**SECOND DAY:**

Read I John 2:24, 25

1. Write John's instruction to the readers in the first sentence of I John 2:24, highlight or underline the word *abide*.
  - a. *What you have heard from the beginning* refers to the Gospel, the apostolic teaching, and the original message which had been preached (Word of God). It had not changed and would not change. John was not the only apostle who stressed the importance of steadfastness to the basic teachings of Christ. Both Paul and Peter in writing their last letters (both of them knowing they were about to die), reminded the recipients of their letters of what was most important. Record from the following scriptures what they had to say about observing the original message:
    - 1.) Paul (II Timothy 1:13)
  
    - 2.) Peter (II Peter 1:12)
  - b. How would holding fast (abiding) to the basic teachings of Christ and the apostles keep us in the truth?
2. *Remember your leaders and superiors in authority who brought to you the Word of God. Observe attentively and consider their manner of living - the outcome of their well-spent lives - and imitate their faith. (that is their conviction that God exists and is the Creator and ruler of all things, the Provider and Bestower of eternal salvation through Christ: ...) Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the same, yesterday, today, and forever - to the ages. Do not be carried about by different and varied and alien teachings; (Hebrews 13:7-9a AMP).* Parallel these verses with John's warning to his readers in I John 2:24.
  - a. How would knowing that *Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever* help to refute the claims of many today who say that Biblical teachings are outdated?
3. Record what I John 2:24 teaches about the following:
  - a. abide
  - b. remain
  - c. continue
  - d. What do they say *to you* about your walk in Christ today?
4. If we continue in the Son and in the Father, what are we promised (assured of)? I John 2:25 Print your answer.
  - a. STOP! Think about the thrilling truth of this promise. Write one aspect of having *eternal life* that causes you to want to abide in truth,
  - b. How does Romans 4:(20), 21 assure us that God is faithful to His promise to give believers eternal life?

5. What does the Bible reveal about *eternal life*? Use the following verses to answer:
  - a. Matthew 25:46
  - b. John 10:28
  - c. Titus 1:2
6. In what way does the promise of eternal life relate to your choices and decisions on a daily basis?

**THIRD DAY:** Read I John 2:26, 27

1. I John 2:26 refers to those *that seduce you*. I John 2:18, 22 describe these *seducers*. What two words does John use to describe them?
  - a. Look up the word *seduce* in the dictionary. What does it mean to *seduce*?
    - 1.) What is the goal of a *seducer* according to the following verses:
      - (a.) Acts 20:30
      - (b.) II Timothy 3:13
    - 2.) Who is the father of all lies and seduction? John 8:44
2. The Gnostics taught that only a few believers received "divine enlightenment" and *knew the truth* about Jesus (I John 2:21). John declares all believers know the truth. How does I John 2:27 refute the Gnostics' lie?
  - a. I John 2:20 NIV states *but you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth*. Now, in verse 27, John is reminding us again of the anointing we have received of Him which abides in us. Complete I John 2:27 KJV by filling in the following blanks which describe various attributes of this *anointing*:  
*But the anointing which you received of Him abides in you, and you need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and is \_\_\_\_\_ and even as it hath \_\_\_\_\_ you, ye shall abide in Him.*
  - b. What one word would you use to describe the Holy Spirit from what you have learned in verse 27?
    - 1.) How do John 14:26 and I Corinthians 2:13 confirm this?
3. I John 2:27 does not mean human teachers are unnecessary or unimportant. It means that the Holy Spirit equips us to discern truth in the light of the scriptures. I Corinthians 2:14 recognizes that spiritual things are *spiritually discerned*. Recall a specific time in your life where the Holy Spirit opened up your understanding concerning the truth about Jesus.
  - a. Paul was careful to preach *all the counsel of God* (Acts 20:27). How do the following verses explain why we need Spirit-led, human teachers:

1.) Acts 5:42

2.) Ephesians 4:11

(a.) What does Ephesians 4:(11), 12-14 state is the purpose of the gift of teaching?

4. ...*the anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you.* The word *abideth* here speaks of the fact that the Holy Spirit permanently remains in the believer. How does this speak to you that the Holy Spirit, who *remains in you*, has chosen to reveal truths to you about God that the natural man cannot understand?

*for me to learn anything spiritual,  
it takes the work of the Holy Spirit in my heart...  
Pastor Chuck*

**FOURTH DAY:**

Read I John 2:28

1. To what does the phrase from I John 2:28 *when He shall appear* refer? Answer from Titus 2:13.
2. How does Corinthians 3:12-15 provide a clue to what might make us *ashamed* at His return?
  - a. What do these verses reveal about believers:
    - 1.) Romans 14:10
    - 2.) II Corinthians 5:10
  - b. Ponder the word *ashamed* in this verse. Express briefly the awfulness of being *ashamed* at Christ's return for the church.
3. What is John's instruction to those who desire to *have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming*? I John 2:28a
  - a. What have you learned from your study of I John 2 about *abiding*?
    - 1.) Realizing the importance of *abiding*, what changes have you made in your life?
4. What is the definition of the word *confidence*?
  - a. How does abiding in Him obliterate any fear of being ashamed at His coming?
  - b. What things shake that confidence?
  - c. What would you like to be doing when the Lord returns?

5. Such confidence is not human presumption, but a natural result of ABIDING in HIM. Share how knowing that the Lord's *coming* is imminent is affecting the way you live.

Optional: Compose an acronym using the letters A B I D E. (One word for each letter.)

*O Lord, that I could stand before You unashamed; How could that ever be?  
If I abide in You and Your Holy Word, unashamed I'll never be.  
My precious child, it's for that very joy I died on Calvary.*

**FIFTH DAY:** Read I John 2:29

1. *If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of Him* (I John 2:29 NIV). To be *born of Him* we must acknowledge that God is righteous. In addition to describing character that is right or just, the word *righteous*, in the Greek signifies that of being *just without prejudice or partiality*.
2. What do these verses say about ability to *do righteousness* in and of ourselves:
  - a. Isaiah 64:6
  - b. Romans 3:10
3. How would you explain what it means to be *born of Him*? Use John 1:13 and I Peter 1:23 for your answer.
4. "The visible truth of being a Christian is right behavior, many people do good deeds but don't have faith in Jesus Christ. Others claim to have faith but rarely produce good deeds. A deficit in either faith or right behavior will be a cause for shame when Christ returns. Because true faith always results in good deeds, those who claim to have faith and who consistently do what is right are true believers. Good deeds cannot produce salvation (see Ephesians 2:8.9) but they are necessary proof that true faith is actually present (James 2:14-17)." *Life Application Bible in Christ* How does walking in righteousness prove our faith in Christ?
  - a. How will our right behavior keep us from being ashamed at *His coming* and add to our assurance right now that we are his?

*Loved with everlasting love, led by grace that love to know;  
Spirit, breathing from above, Thou has taught me it is so!  
Oh, this full and perfect peace! Oh, this transport all divine!  
In a love which cannot cease, I am His, and He is mine.*

W. Robinson

**SIXTH DAY:**

Review I John 2 (concentrating on verses 24-29)

1. This week, we have completed I John 2. Look over this chapter and choose the one area that has had the most powerful influence in your life.
2. Chapter 2 has taught us much about the word *know*. *Knowing Him* is the most important thing for anyone to know. Observe this by writing Jeremiah 9:24.
  - a. Compare the results of *knowing Him* with the results of *not knowing Him* by filling out the following chart: (Use I John 2 as your resource.)

Knowing Him	Not Knowing Him
d. vs. 3	a. vs. 3
e. vs. 10	b. vs. 9
f. vs. 17	c. vs. 15
g. vs. 20	d. vs. 19
h. vs. 21	e. vs. 4

3. Record what is true of those who *abide in Him* from:

- a. I John 2:24
- b. I John 2:25
- c. I John 2:27
- d. I John 2:28

1.) Meditate on all that we possess when we abide in Christ. Which of the above blessings do you tend to take for granted?

What do *antichrists* teach and why should we avoid them?

4. What two resources have been given that enable the believer to discern between truth and error:
  - a. I John 2:24a
  - b. I John 2:20, 27
5. According to I John 3:3, what effect is the hope of the return of Christ to have on the believer?
6. What does it mean to you to be *born of Him*?
7. How is adherence to the truth (abiding in Him) in spite of Satan's attempts to seduce or deceive us (unglue us) further evidence of our assurance?

*John sums up his message making application of chapter 2 in I John 2:28, 29.*

*Whatever is our greatest need:  
disciplined obedience or true discernment  
our task is to abide in Him.*