

(1 John 5:6-21)
“*A Changed Heart = A Changed Life*” (Part #2)

~LET'S PRAY~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled todays message: **“A Changed Heart = A Changed Life”**
 - (1 John 5:6-21) NKJV.

~INTRO~

HISTORY TELLS THE STORY...

- About Alexander the Great...
 - And how there was a man in his army...
 - Who was not acting brave in battle.
 - When he should have been pressing in...
 - He was lingering back!

ALEXANDER...

- Approached & asked...
 - “*What's your name soldier?*”
 - The man answered: “Sir my name is Alexander.”
- The great general looked this soldier in the eye & said...
 - “*Get in there and fight or change your name!*”

NOW... JOHN TEACHES US...

- That when we identify our life with **Christ** (by faith)...
 - We overcome the world!
 - No longer do we shrink back in defeat...
 - But we stand strong until Satan flees!

(James 4:7) NKJV
Resist the devil and he will flee

(1 Peter 5:9) NKJV
Resist = Fight not flee!

Because... SATAN WANTS YOU TO PULL BACK...

- So you lack joy...
- So you get stuck in sin...
- So you get confused about your eternal state!

~STUDY~

A FEW CLOSING IDEAS:

IDEA #1 – NON-NEGOTIABLE TRUTH: (vv.4-12)

IN THE ORIGINAL LETTER TO THE CHURCHES...

- There was a local issue.
➤ John was dealing with – *Gnosticism*.

IN THIS CASE...

- *Gnosticism*... denied the deity of Christ on the cross.
➤ And the *Gnostics* claimed the Holy Spirit left Jesus...
 - While He was on the cross... and He died as a man!

BUT THE TRUTH IS...

- Jesus finished our redemption ([John 19:30](#)) NKJV
➤ And then released His Spirit to the Father ([Luke 23:46](#)) NLT

AND LET'S NOT FORGET...

- That Jesus already addressed His authenticity as God...
➤ ([John 10:17-18](#)) NLT.

SO...

- John was combatting this attack on the faith...
➤ By underscoring non-negotiable truth about Jesus.

JOHN... REASSURED THE CHURCH...

- That Jesus came by water & blood.
➤ (Jesus was God at His baptism & God at His crucifixion).
 - Baptism ([Matt. 3:16-17](#))
 - Crucifixion ([Luke 23:46](#))

JESUS IDENTIFIED WITH MAN...

- At His baptism...
➤ And then died for the SINS of man on the cross.

TODAY... the Holy Spirit witnesses / testifies to the Son of God!

- ([John 15:26](#)) says... “*The Spirit testifies of Jesus.*”

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APPLICATION MOMENT

WHERE IS... THE SPIRIT OF GOD...

- Testifying of Jesus in your life?
 - Is HE bringing up uncomfortable situations...
 - He wants you to get right?

IDEA #2 – REASSURING TRUTH: (vv.13-17)

JOHN HAS WALKED US THRU...

- The test of faith (vv.1-5)
- To the Testimony of Christ (vv.6-8)
- To the witness of God’s Spirit (vv.9-12)

NOW... we move into assurance of our destiny (v.13)

- (Col. 1:27) NLT

(John 20:30-31) NKJV

- John writes so we may believe & have eternal life.
 - Again it’s another layer of Assurance of Faith.

ALSO...

- The confidence we have in prayer (vv.14-15)
 - Example: (2 Chronicles 1:7-12) NLT

NEXT...

- Notice healing & forgiveness of sin (James 14-15) NLT
 - (1 Cor. 6:9-11) NLT

ON THE OTHER HAND...

- There’s sin that leads to death...What is it?
 - Blasphemy.

The unpardonable sin today is the state of continued unbelief. The Spirit currently convicts the unsaved world of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8). To resist that conviction and willfully remain unrepentant is to “blaspheme” the Spirit. There is no pardon, either in this age or in the age

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to come, for a person who rejects the Spirit’s promptings to trust in Jesus Christ and then dies in unbelief. ¹

IDEA #3 – PRACTICAL TRUTH: (vv.18-21)

(v.18) *We know* = As a child of God we do not practice sin...

(v.19) *We know* = We are children of God & the world is controlled by Satan.

(v.20a) *We know* = God has given us understanding...

(v.20b) *We can know* = The true God.

- (Luke 24:45) NKJV

IN OTHER WORDS...

- We've been given the knowledge of things that pertain to salvation.
 - The Spirit brings together in our mind...
 - So we comprehend what God has said.

FINALLY... (v.21) NLT

- An IDOL is a substitute for the real thing!

HOW CAN WE RECOGNIZE AN IDOL?

- It's affections that steer our attention away from God.

SOMETIMES...

- People think they have a boring life!
 - I would encourage you to reframe that thought.
 - And consider how God is protecting your heart.

WHEN LIFE IS SIMPLE... Life is easy.

(1 Tim 6:8) NLT – *“If we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.”*

~IN CLOSING~

¹ Got Questions Ministry 2024. Article: *What is the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?* Sourced: March 9, 2024 from <https://www.gotquestions.org/blasphey-Holy-Spirit.html>

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The Christian Life requires a radical reordering of priorities...

- As you change from pleasing self, to pleasing God.
 - As you learn to obey God (a life of faith).

Paul tells us we're to [“walk in the Spirit” \(Gal. 5:25\) NKJV.](#)

- The idea is to take one step at a time, as we learn to walk under...
 - The instruction of the Holy Spirit & word of God.