

Let's Dismiss our Kids to Kid's Quest!



The Text:

I John 3:19-24!

The Title:

***Confronting Our Condemning
Hearts!***

The Theme:

Fellowship with the Father!

John Introduces the Theme to Us ***1 John 1:1-4***

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 – and that 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 – 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.**

John's Approach to the Book!

After stating the purpose of his writing, John sets himself before us as a Loyal Pastor (chapters 1 & 5) and then a Loving Parent (chapters 2-4). And he presents himself in this way to: 1.) Encourage believers who are in hiding, running for their lives, and 2.) Exhort the followers of Jesus to reject apostasy and fulfill their Master's call to love one another, even as He has loved us.

In this short letter, John addresses all those who know Christ as Savior, no matter where they are in their maturity or understanding of the truth – Little Children, Fathers, and the Young Men! He will address each of these groups to help prepare them for the imminent attacks they now face.

Step Back / Time Out / Evaluate: Sal. – Sanct. – Service!

Herb Walters: One of my first mentors!

I used to think I knew I knew,

But now I must confess.

The more I know I know I know,

I know I know the less.

Today we too often find ourselves struggling and searching for answers to help explain the unfair circumstances we face in this life. But for many of us, the truth is, we search in vain because the answers we are looking for are not logical, or temporal, but spiritual. Because of the conflict between the kingdoms of light and darkness, John encourages his readers to resist fleshly and lustful desires and cling to the love they've experienced in Jesus.

Let's Read the Text!

1 John 3:19-24!



EXCHANGE:

Great Ideas from Pastors to You!

***Article: The Great Human Conflict.
(Describes the Christian's Struggle)***

We are loving, but sometimes hateful.

We are giving, but sometimes selfish.

We are truthful, but the truth is sometimes we lie.

We are honorable, but do not do the honorable thing.

We are intelligent, but do not always act intelligently.

We are strong, but have many weaknesses.

We are human, but do not always show it.

It is because of God's love that He sent His Son!

It is because of the Son's request that we have H.S.:

Remain Pure / Respond with Passion / Remember to Pray!

Let's Review Our Study!

For the past six or seven weeks we have been developing the theme of I John. And we have learned that true, Biblical fellowship, must begin with a correct understanding of the Incarnation – it is by God's grace and our faith in Jesus, that fellowship with God is possible.

In Chapter One:

The CONDITION needed for Fellowship!

In Chapter Two:

The CONDUCT resulting from Fellowship!

In Chapter Three:

The CHARACTERISTICS caused by Fellowship!

Chapter 3:1-24

The Characteristics of Fellowship!

A. (3:1-18) Love Proves that the Believer is ABIDING!

- 1. (3:1-3) God's love is seen in our purity. (sinner / son)**
- 2. (3:4-18) Our love is seen in our passion. (lust / love)**

B. (3:19-24) Love is Provided in ANSWERED Prayer!

1. How our love & God's love is seen: **When we ask!
He answers!**

- a. (vs.19-20) The believer's conviction.**
- b. (vs.21-22) The believer's confidence.**
- c. (v.23) The believer's commandment.**
- d. (v.24) The believer's comfort.**

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests and answers!

1. (3:19-20) The believer's conviction.

- a. The Context: The link between this new passage and the passage we looked at last week is the word "truth." Last week John exhorted us not to love with word or tongue, but in deeds and with truth (v.18). His goal was to point out the difference between "talking the talk" and "walking the walk." Now, having done that, John teaches that the believer still identifies with the truth even when he "messes-up!"***

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests and answers!

1. (3:19-20) The believer's conviction.

a. The Context: Note! To emphasize this amazing truth, John begins (in verse 19) and ends (in verse 24) with the words “**this is how we know.**” Here John is symbolically wrapping his arms around both the Christian and the truth to reveal the magnitude of God's wondrous grace and love for us – even when we don't love the way we know we should love!

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests and answers!

1. (3:19-20) The believer's conviction.

a. The Context!

b. The Conviction: Even when our hearts tell us that we have failed to walk in the way that we know we should walk, we still have great assurance. We know that we are still of the truth in

spite of our failure. This is the result of the work of the Incarnate One's love (Jesus) – 1:7; 2:1-2; 3:16!

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests and answers!

1. (3:19-20) The believer's conviction.

a. The Context!

b. The Conviction!

c. The Clarity: When we fail to live the life-style that is pleasing before God, we can continue on knowing that He already knows. And we know for sure that He knows, because His Spirit touches our spirit to let us know that our fellowship with Him is in danger.

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests and answers!

- 1. (3:19-20) The believer's conviction.***
- 2. (3:21-22) The believer's confidence:***

Here John turns our attention from the problem of our being convicted, to the process leading to our confidence!

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests!

2. (3:21-22) The believer's confidence:

Here John turns from the negative to the positive!

a. (v.21a) The reality of our being loved by God is that we are addressed as "Beloved!"

1.) (1:1) Father's love – Sent His Son / Eternal Life!

2.) (3:16) Son's love – Laid down His life for sinners!

3.) (3:24) Spirit's love – Lives inside us / Security!

4.) (3:2,21; 4:1,7,11) Believer is loved – Beloved!

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests!

2. (3:21-22) The believer's confidence:

a. (v.21a) The reality.

b. (vs.21b-22a) The result of being loved by God!

1.) (v.21b) Since our conscience does not condemn us / fellowship with God!

2.) (v.22a) Since you have fellowship / you can make your requests known to Him!

When we listen to God, He listens to us!

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests!

2. (3:21-22) The believer's confidence:

a. (v.21a) The reality.

b. (vs.21b-22a) The result.

c. (v.22b) The reason our prayers are answered!

1.) Because we keep His commandments – 4:21!

2.) Because we do what is pleasing to Him – 4:7!

(Outward obedience brings about inward blessings)

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests and answers!

3. (v.23) The believer's commandment.

a. That – Implies indirect discourse!

This structure is given to remind the reader that this was the teaching of Jesus when He walked and talked with His disciples while on earth.

b. Teaching – Is introduced in Matthew 22:34-39!

John is reliving what he heard when he personally walked / talked with Jesus!

B. (3:19-24) The Believer's Love Results in Answered Prayer!

When we practice purity before others and walk with passion, God hears our requests and answers!

4. (v.24) The believer's comfort.

a. The proof that we abide in Him –

Our Obedience!

b. The proof that He abides in us –

His Spirit!

Again John builds on the fact that he was there when the Incarnate One made the promise to send the Holy Spirit or Comforter – John 14:15-17!

The Outline of I John!

- I. (1:1-2:2) The **CONDITIONS** needed
for fellowship.
- II. (2:3-27) The **CONDUCT** resulting
from fellowship.
- III. (2:28-3:24) The **CHARACTERISTICS**
produced in fellowship.
- IV. (4:1-21) The **CAUTION** when
seeking fellowship.
- V. (5:1-21) The **CONSEQUENCES**
of true fellowship.

Next Week / The Apostate

From Words of Wisdom to Words of Warning!

