

Fellowship with God Who Is Righteous – Part I

I John 2:29-3:12

April 14, 2024

I. Introduction and Review

A. Where we are coming from – I John 1:1-2:28

B. Where we are headed – I John 2:29-45:6

II. Fellowship with God Who Is Righteous – 2:29-4:6

A. Fact of God's Righteousness – v. 29

"Like Father Like Son"

1. He is righteous

2. They who practice righteousness are born of Him

B. Incentives for righteous living – 3:1-3

1. The love of God – v. 1a

a. John 13:1; Romans 8:32; II Corinthians 5:14

2. Our Sonship – vs. 1b-2a

a. The privilege of it – Romans 8:16, 17

b. The responsibility of it – Ephesians 4:1

c. The result of it:

i. The world does not know us

ii. The world hates us – John 15:18, 19

3. The return of Christ – 2: 28, 3:2b-3

a. Its nature

i. We shall see Him

ii. We shall be like Him – Philippians 3:20, 21

b. Its effect: Purifying

i. Because you are dwelling on things above

• Colossians 3:1-3; Hebrews 6:18

ii. Because you are prepared for His return

• II Timothy 4:8

C. Evidences of Righteous Living – v. 3:4-12

1. We do not practice sin – vs. 4-10a (negatively)

Because:

a. Sin is lawlessness: The absence of rules. – v. 4

b. It violates the purpose for which He came – v. 5

c. It violates His character – v. 5b

d. It says we do not know Him – vs. 6, 7

e. It says we are of the devil – v. 8a

f. No one born of God sins habitually – v. 9

g. It's a hallmark of a believer – v. 10a

2. We bear fruit – John 15:4-8 (Positively)

3. We love our brother – vs. 10b-12

a. This is an old message with new meaning – vs. 10b-11

i. See: 2:7, 8

b. Cain (a negative example) – v. 12

i. He was of the evil one

ii. He hated Abel 's righteousness

c. Other examples:

i. Daniel: Daniel 6

ii. John the Baptist: Mark 6; 14—29

iii. Steven: Acts 7

III. Take Aways

A. You will never interpret or understand God's correctly-clearly until you are clear on the following:

1. Man (you and me) are both by nature and choice sinners

a. Psalm 51:5; Romans 3

2. Man owes a debt he cannot pay by any means or any amount of time

a. Ephesians 2:8, 9

3. The death and resurrection paid the debt we owe

a. Acts 3:13-16; Romans 4:22-25

4. I appropriate that gift by faith and faith alone

a. Romans 4:5

5. Works of any kind are to be viewed as a sign of gratitude

a. Colossians 2:6, 7

6. Works are evidence of salvation before men only, not God

a. James 2:24

7. Faithfulness to God's call of holy living benefits us now and latter

a. Matthew 25:21; Galatians 5:22, 23