

A Study of the General Epistles

(NT Survey Lesson 207--1 John 2)

Introduction: In chapter two John continues to stress the basis upon which we may know that we have eternal life (5:12). He gives four key commands: 1) keep God's commands (v. 1-6), 2) love your brethren (v. 7-11); 3) Love not the world (v. 12-17); 4) let the truth abide in you which you heard from the beginning (v. 18-29).

Lesson aim: To instruct us what we should do to know that we have eternal life.

Keep His commandments--1 Jn. 2:1-6

1. Why does John say he writes this epistle? (v. 1) What instead does John want Christians to do? (v. 4)
2. If we sin, what do we have? How else does John describe Him in v. 2?
3. We know we know God when we do what? (v. 3) What does John say about the man who continues to live in sin? What does he say about the man who "keeps His word"?
4. What is the proof that we are abiding in God?

Love your brothers--1 Jn. 2:7-11

1. Of what commandment does John speak in this section? Why was it "not new"? (v. 7) Why was it "new"? (v. 8)
2. Can a person "walk in the light" and hate his brother? What does John say about the man who "hates his brother"? (9, 11)
3. What does John say about the man who "loves his brother"? (v. 10)

Love not the world--1 Jn. 2:12-17

1. What three groups did John address in this section? Is John acknowledging that there are levels of spiritual growth?
2. What does John say about the children? The young men? The fathers?
3. What does John urge all of God's children not to do? What is not in the one who loves the world? Why? (v. 16)
4. Who does John say will abide forever? (v. 17)

**Let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning--1
Jn. 2:18-27**

1. Who did John say had arisen among God's people? (v. 18) What did this indicate?
2. What did these "antichrists" do? (v. 19) Why?
3. What did John say God's children possessed? (v. 20) What is the result of this?
4. What did these "antichrists" teach about Christ? What did John say were the consequences of this lie? (v. 23)
5. What did John command his readers to do? (v. 24) What promise would this enable them to receive? (v. 25)
6. How could they avoid the deception of those false teachers? (v. 27)