

1 John

Liberty Lesson 4

1 John 1:4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

1 John 2:1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin.

1 John 2:21 I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

I write so that our joy may be complete:

1) Complete Joy.

1 John 1:4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

a) There is a joy that only comes to those who truly love God.

b) This work of Joy was a major priority of Jesus.

John 15:9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. John 15: 11 These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

c) This joy comes from seeing others experiencing Christ for themselves.

John the Baptist – St John 3:26-30 NIV the people who followed John the Baptist came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.” **27** To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. **28** You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.’ **29** The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. **30 ESV** He must increase, but I must decrease.”

d) This Joy is increasable. *your joy is increasable*

e) This joy is the absence guilt, shame, and condemnation.

f) This joy is beyond comprehension it is beyond our circumstances and it is Out of the reach of the devil

2) Free From Sin Habits.

1 John 2:1,2 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

a) What is sin?

If John's aim is that we not sin, we need a definition of sin. What is it?

in 1 John 3:4 gives the most straightforward definition of sin in this book. "Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness."

i) Sin is lawlessness. In other words, sin is man's refusal to submit to God's law, that is, God's Word.

ii) Sin is very serious.

(1) Sin is serious because it insults the suffering of Christ.

(a) According to 3:8, "The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil." The reason Christ came into the world and suffered was to destroy the power of sin which is the primary work of the devil. We must not coddle our sin.

(b) Those who refuse to take sin serious by continuing in it are by their actions saying to Christ "to me your suffering was no big deal. You may have died to prevent me from doing this, but I'm going to do it anyway."

(2) Sin is serious because it threatens the assurance of our salvation.

(a) 1 John 3:8 is very blunt and straight to the point "Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil" Verse 9 gives the opposite: "No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed (or God's Nature RSV) abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God"

(b) 1 John 2:3,4 And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. 4 Whoever says "I know him" but doesn't keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

John isn't teaching perfection, but he does teach the necessity of Transformation!

(3) Sin is serious because it can put out of reach for eternity.

1 John 5:16,17 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. 17 All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death."

(a) There is a practice of in that can put a person beyond the reach of salvation.

(b) There is a habit of insubordination to God's word and the conviction of the Spirit that becomes so strong that a person can no longer genuinely confess it as sin and repent of it.

b) When you sin there is hope: 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 2:1,2 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

i) Confess your disobedience to God's word as sin.

ii) Trust in His propitiation.

(1) **Propitiation is literally the removal of the wrath of God against sinners by the death of Jesus.**

(a) John 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

(b) In John's last book we are told that God's wrath consists of darkness, fire, smoke and torment forever (Rev 14).

(2) But there is good news for every human. 1 John 4:10 says that God has made a way to propitiate (or remove) his own wrath against sinner

4:10 - In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Notice in 1:7 that it is the "blood of Jesus his Son [that] cleanses from all sin." Jesus removed the wrath of God from us by dying for us.

iii) Rest in your Advocate - But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

Jesus removed the sin that stood against you... satisfied the wrath against that sin!

He WAS your Propitiation and has NOW become your Advocate!

3) Identifying the Lies of the Enemy.

1 John 2:21 I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

a) John writes to expose the lies of the deceivers.

1 John 2:26 I write these things to you about those who are trying to deceive you.

i) He wants us to know the truth about the deceivers.

They say, Jesus did not come in the flesh, he did not free us from our sins, there is no hope in the cross.

- b) He is greater 1 John 4:4 Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
 - i) He is greater than the lies of the deceivers
 - ii) He is greater than the lies of our condemning hearts.
 - iii) He is greater than the works of the devil.
- c) The greater one is lives inside of you!