

A Survey of the New Testament

Lesson 26: 1 John “Confident of Eternal Life” December 4, 2019

Summary: John wrote to identify several characteristics by which a believer could evaluate his fellowship with God and be confident of his salvation.

Author: 1 John was written by the apostle _____.

- The author is not identified in the book.
- Early church fathers testified that John wrote this book.
- He began this _____ with a similar style as his gospel (1:1-3a; John 1:1, 14).
- A Son of Zebedee and brother of James - the sons of thunder.
- He was a fisherman by trade.
- Possibly Jesus' _____.
- One of Jesus' inner circle.
- He personally witnessed the events of Jesus' life.

Recipient: 1 John is a real general epistle.

- It does not have a designated recipient.
- There are _____ mentioned at all.
- “Little children” is appropriately applied to people of all ages since John spoke as an _____ spiritual father (5:21).

Date:

- There are no date indicators.
- Attempts to date this epistle are based on assumptions or traditions.
- According to tradition, John wrote from _____ as late as the A.D. 90's.
- John probably wrote between A.D. _____.

Purpose: “That ye may know that ye have eternal life...” (5:13)

- was written to believers.
- is intended for _____.
- provides evidences of a person's salvation.
- anticipates temporary failure (2:1).
- raises _____ over perpetual failure.
- gives _____ not fear.

Book Content Overview:

- Introduction (1:1-5).
- Evidence #1: He walks in the _____ (1:6-14).
 - Summary of evidence (1:6-7).
 - Walking in the light requires confession of sin (1:8-2:2).
 - Walking in the light requires keeping His commandments (2:3-7).
 - Walking in the light requires loving your brother (2:8-14).
- Evidence #2: He does not love the _____ (2:15-17).
- Evidence #3: He abides in _____ (2:18-29).
 - The spirit of an antichrist denies Jesus by leaving the faith (2:18-23).
 - Continually abiding in Him will give us confidence at His appearing (2:24-29).
- Evidence #4: He _____ himself from sin (3:1-9).
- Evidence #5: He _____ his brother (3:10-24).
 - Hate is natural in the world (3:10-15).
 - Love is shown by actions (3:16-24).
- Evidence #6: He _____ God's Spirit (4:1-21).
 - Admits that Jesus is God in the flesh (4:1-6).
 - Loves others as God loved him (4:7-15).
 - Perfect love removes fear (4:16-21).
- Evidence #7: He is _____ of God (5:1-12).
 - He will love the Father and the Son (5:1-3).
 - He will overcome the world (5:4-12).
- Conclusion (5:13-21)
 - _____ in prayer (5:13-20)
 - Final admonition against _____ (5:21)

Key Theme: John repeatedly emphasizes the theme of God's _____ in His writings.

- In his Gospel
 - He called himself "the _____ whom Jesus loved" (John 20:2).
 - He identified God's love for the world as a primary motivation for sending His Son (John 3:16).
- In this epistle
 - God's love made us His sons (3:1).
 - God's love motivated Him to lay down His life for us (3:16).
 - Love is part of God's _____; therefore, if we love others, we demonstrate that we _____ Him (4:7).

Application: Love the brethren as God has loved you.