*“With the Master Before the Mirror of God’s Word”* by Susan Heck

A Ladies Bible Study on First John

Tuesday, May 28, 2019

*“…Those who are born of God, as they grow in their relationship to Christ, begin to behave like He does. They are righteous, just as He is righteous; they take on a resemblance to Christ. Why? Because they are born of God; they are His offspring! But sadly, the same thing is true of the children of Satan. They too begin to resemble him; they are wicked and evil, just as Satan is. Why? Because they are children of the devil.” (pg.167)*

**Susan’s Summary** of Chapter 12– “The Children of God Contrasted with the Children of Satan: Part 2” – 1 John 3:9-12 (pg. 178)

“In this lesson the Apostle John has shown us:

*“Three Characteristics of God’s Children” (vv 9,11):*

1. They do not practice sin – “Being born of God is an act that happened once, but it has continuous and lasting results.” (pg. 168)

2. God’s seed remains in them – “The seed that has been implanted in us is the Word of God…those who are born of God have God’s seed in us and it is one that remains.” (pg. 169)

3. They love others – “This loving of one another applies to all of mankind, not just to our Christian brothers…” Galatians 6:10; Matthew 5:43-48 (pg. 174)

And the Apostle John has shown us:

*“Three Characteristics of Satan’s Children” (vv 10,12*):

1. They do not practice righteousness – “Righteousness refers to doing what is right, and it denotes that this is the character of one’s life.” (pg.171,172)

2. They do not love their brother – “…the core of our Christianity is love. It is one of the greatest litmus tests that we are the sons of God.” John 13:35 (pg.172) Children of the devil hate their brother.

3. Their works are evil – “…Cain hated his brother because Cain’s evil deeds were exposed by his brother’s righteous deeds. Cain perverted what should have been an animal sacrifice of worship into a murderous act of hatred and jealously.” (pg. 176)

Once again John has made it crystal clear to us. If we are born of God, we cannot live a sinful life; if we are of Satan, we will live a sinful life. If we are born of God, we will love others; if we are of Satan, we will hate others. If we are born of God, His seed remains in us forever; if we are of Satan, his evil works reside in our hearts.”

“Watch a person’s life: Are they in the habit of ongoing sin? Then they are a child of the devil. Are they in the habit of righteousness? Then they are a child of God!” (pg. 171) “**Are you a child of God or a child of the devil?** It is my deepest desire that every one of you is indeed a child of the King.”