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

A Ladies Bible Study on First John

Tuesday, October 8th, 2019

Susan is so right when she says, “Love of the brethren is a precious, precious benefit for those of us who know Christ. But for those who are in darkness, they are not able to experience such love. Their lives are characterized by something different; their lives are characterized by hate. This is a character quality of those who do not know God..*.” (pg.181)*

**Susan’s Summary** of Chapter 13– “Is Your Life Characterized by Love or Hate?” – 1 John 3:13-18 (pg. 192-193)

*“The Nature of Those Who Love Others” (vv 13, 16-18)*

1. They are hated by the world

2. They are willing to lay down their lives for others

3. They meet the needs of others in deed and truth!

*“The Nature of Those Who Hate Others” (vv 14,15)*

1. They abide in death

2. They are murderers

3. They will spend eternity in hell

***I don’t know if you ever struggle with the assurance of your salvation, but if you do, you can either take great comfort from these verses or you can take great concern from theses verses.***

Does the world we live in warmly embrace you? If it does, then perhaps you need to re-examine your salvation.

Does the world we live in persecute you; do they think you are strange? If so, then you can take comfort in this—that you indeed know Christ.

Do you have a continuous and habitual love for others? If you do, then you can take comfort that you know God.

Do you have a continuous and habitual hate for others? If so, then you should be concerned that you don’t know God.

Do you habitually give out of a generous heart of compassion to others from your time, your energy, and your resources? If you do, then you can take comfort that you know God.

Do you habitually begrudge the time, money, and energy you give to others; would you rather be watching TV, surfing the net, catching up on your Facebook, chilling out, and doing your own thing?

Are you indifferent to the needs of others?

If these things describe you, then you should be concerned that perhaps you don’t know God.

*These are issues I would encourage you to ponder before the Lord in the quietness of your heart—they are matters of life and death.”*