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

A Ladies Bible Study on First John

Tuesday, March 10th, 2020

*“In our last lesson we learned that “God’s commandments are not a burden, and the reason for this is found in verse 4: “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.” Those of us who are born of God have the power to overcome the world, and therefore following what God has asked us to do is not a burden. We have overcome the world, and because of that the world no longer has a pull on us. We are overcomers; we are not burden-bearers!” (pg. 277)*

**Susan’s Summary** of Chapter 20– “The Evidence that Jesus is the Christ” – 1 John 5:4-8 (pg.285)

Here are Susan’s words to introduce this chapter, “I must confess to you that in my opinion we have come to the most difficult passage to interpret in the epistle of 1 John...Actually, many of the Old Testament and New Testament writers have written some things that are difficult to understand.” (pg.277)

“In this lesson we have answered several questions:

1) *Who is Born of God? (vv 4, 5)*

Those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God and have overcome the world.

“John says we have overcome the world by our faith; our faith is the victory. Our faith, our salvation, is the means by which we overcome the world.” (pg. 279)

2) *Who Bears Witness of Jesus? (v 6)*

God the Holy Spirit, who is true.

*[“Ladies, 1 John 5:6 is a very difficult verse to interpret and has various interpretations by different scholars regarding what the water and the blood are. Almost all these interpretations ultimately come to the same end result. Most of them accurately conclude that in the Scriptures the Holy Spirit testifies who Jesus Christ really is—that Jesus is God who came in the flesh. John points out who the Spirit is, the Spirit is* ***truth***. *This reality of the Holy Spirit’s testimony of who Jesus Christ is in the Scriptures destroys the Gnostics heresy that Jesus did not come in the flesh.”] Christyn Champ*

3) *Who Bears Witness in Heaven? (v 7)*

The Father, the Word (whom we know is Christ from John chapter one), and the Holy Spirit.

4) *Who Bears Witness on Earth? (v 8)*

The Spirit, the water*,* and the blood.

***May our lives testify to the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God! (pg.285)***