

CHANGED LIVES

Lesson 5

JOHN: “Who John BECAME”

John 21:20-25

John 20:35

John 3:16

John 13:34, 35

John 14:15 21, 28

John 15:9-17

John 21:15-17

I John 2:10, 15

I John 3:11-23

I John 4:7-21

I John 5:3

2 John 5,6

Revelation 2:4,19

Did you notice:

John: Jehovah has been gracious

John wrote his gospel and letters between 30 and 60 years after Jesus ascended to heaven. While he was a young man when the events were happening, his writing selection and emphasis (besides being led by the Holy Spirit) are based upon a man who has been changed from that “earlier” man (son of Thunder, quick to condemn, prohibit, exalt himself, etc.) He became known as John the “Elder”, the “Evangelist”, “beloved disciple” and Apostle of “Love”.

John 21:20-25 There was far more that John could have chosen to include, than what he did. It raises questions as to why is he the ONLY gospel writer to detail Jesus’ restoration of Peter and contrast the future of Peter and himself.

John 20:30, 31 John explains his purpose in writing is to lead people to believe in Jesus and to find life. John will use the word “believe” (or a form)—85 times; “life” is used 49 times! In twenty one chapters; John is making clear what priorities are!

John 3:16 God’s love and sacrifice leads us to believe. Salvation is the result of “belief” not actions or “power”.

John 13:34, 35 Written at a time of persecution by the Romans; John reminds followers of Jesus to “LOVE”.

John 14:15 21, 28 John emphasizes the importance of doing what Jesus OBEYS, not what WE think needs to be done. John had found that there could be quite a difference between those!

John 15:9-17 As Jesus is meeting in the upper room (the night He was betrayed), He calls for His disciples to remain in LOVE. They are to love each other and not act out of revenge or hate.

John 21:15-17 John includes this section where Jesus “reinstates” Peter. Different emphasis of “love” is used by Jesus vs. Peter. Jesus begins asking twice if Peter loved with “agape” (self-sacrificial) love; and Peter responds with “phileo” (friendship) love. The Last time Jesus asks about “phileo” love and Peter responds with “phileo” love.

I John 2:10, 15 Emphasis on loving people and not the “world” (things & philosophies).

I John 3:11-23 In response to God’s love for us, we need to love others; even if the “world” hates us. This love is sacrificial—laying down our life.

I John 4:7-21 Love is so important that without loving our brothers; it’s impossible to love God.

I John 5:3 Love for God is sown by OBEYING His commands.

2 John 5,6 Loving others and obeying Jesus are the orders for all Christians.

Revelation 2:4,19 Church at Ephesus is noted that it has LOST its’ “first love”. Church at Thyatira is noted for it’s love.

We noted John wrote so people would “believe” (form used 93 times in writings) and have “life” (form used 80 times in writings). “LOVE” (form is used 114 TIMES IN WRITINGS!) The man who had once been quick to act, prohibit, condemn, put self first; has now 30-60 years later understood and emphasized the importance of sacrificial love!

What Lessons can you learn for your personal walk with Jesus?

What lessons can the church learn about how they can serve and function?