Lesson 7

Text: I John 2:28-3:3 Christ’s coming should produce confidence/commitment.

I. Confidence at Christ’s Appearing

A. Continuing in Christ vs.28
1. “little children”: John is speaking to believers
2. “abide in him”: John is admonishing his brothers and sisters in Christ to remain in fellowship with Christ.
3. John’s motivation was for his brethren not to be ashamed.
   a. Those who have been faithfully serving Him will be able to stand with confidence before Him at His return. Paul – II Timothy 4:8
   b. The believer who has been living for himself or the world will be ashamed when Christ returns; example: Demas - II Timothy 4:10
   c. Application: When the rapture occurs, all believers will be taken to the Judgment Seat of Christ. (II Cor. 5:10; Romans 14:10,12) Based upon how you are presently living your life, will you stand in confidence before the Lord or will you be ashamed?

B. Continuing in Christ Likeness vs.29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.
   1. “he is righteous”; John speaks of the holiness of God.
   2. “every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.”; Scripture teaches that only a child of God can live a righteous life. While both a saved man and a lost man have an old nature and can both sin, which reveals they both were born of the Devil (flesh), only a saved man:
      • is born of God
      • has Eternal Life
      • is indwelt by the Holy Spirit
      • can live a righteous life
      • can have fellowship with God
      • can Divinely love his neighbor

No unsaved man can live a righteous life. While the practice of righteousness in one’s life bears out one has obtain the new nature through the new birth; the presence of sin bears out one stills has the old sinful nature obtain through one’s physical birth. Since a believer has both natures, only he can live a life that is pleasing to God, but also is capable of living a life that is not pleasing to the Lord. As John stated “ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.” See James 2:14

II. Commitment Because of Christ’s Appearing 3:1-3

A. What God Has Done vs.1 (Made us His Sons)
B. What God Will Do vs.2 (Make us like Him)