

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **1John 5:1-4**.
- B. The apostle John uses the word, "whosoever," five times in 1John.
- C. There are some great lessons to be learned from these verses. Two of the five usages have negative connotations, the other three are more positive in nature.

### I. **WHOSOEVER DENIES THE SON... HAS NOT GOD.**

- A. See 1John 2:22,23.
- B. It's either all or none. He who acknowledges Jesus as the Son of God also has acknowledged God Himself.
- C. Some may argue that they believe in God, but not in Jesus as the Son of God. But God can only be approached through X (Jn. 14:6; Ac. 4:12).
- D. Other world religions claim to worship the same God that Xians do. But because they think they can serve God through others (not X) they have no fellowship with God.
- E. This helps us to realize the extreme seriousness of the three denials of Peter (Mt. 26:34).
- F. God has chosen to reveal Himself through X, and Him alone (Heb. 1:3; Jn. 1:18).

### II. **WHOSOEVER HATES HIS BROTHER... IS A MURDERER.**

- A. See 1John 3:13-15.
- B. This comes from Jesus' teachings, as recorded in the Sermon on the Mount. The thought behind the deed is as deadly as the deed (Mt. 5:21-25).
- C. Hatred breaks the horizontal fellowship between men. This in turn breaks the vertical fellowship with God (1Jn. 4:19-20).
- D. Those who break the vertical and horizontal relationships are in sin! This is serious stuff!
- E. Agape love is a decision to do right by another, no matter what they have done or are doing to us.

### III. **WHOSOEVER CONFESSES JESUS... GOD DWELLS IN HIM.**

- A. See 1John 4:13-15.
- B. In many ways, this is the opposite of the above point. Rich blessings come to those who confess Jesus as the Son of God.
- C. Peter's great confession did not rest in the words of men, but in the power and evidence of God. So must our confession (Mt. 16:13-18).
- D. Also, our confession needs to come from the heart; it means more than lip service to God (Mt. 12:34).
- E. We must confess and believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that God raised Him from the dead (Rom. 10:9,10).

### IV. **WHOSOEVER BELIEVES JESUS IS THE SON... IS BORN OF GOD.**

- A. See 1John 5:1-4.
- B. To believe is to obey. Disobedience equals disbelief (Heb. 3:19; 4:6; Jn. 3:36; esp. in RSV, NASB).
- C. To believe and love is to keep the commandments (Jn. 14:15; 15:14).
- D. To be born again is to have a new beginning in life; to start afresh (Jn. 3:1-5; 1Pet. 1:3,23).

### V. **WHOSOEVER IS BORN OF GOD... DOES NOT PRACTICE SIN.**

- A. See 1John 3:9,10.
- B. The Greek construction in these verses is called "present active indicative" which means that one does not continue to sin.

- C. Let us not misuse the words "and cannot sin." This is not a statement of impossibility but a declaration of what is forbidden.  
(Ex.: A policeman says one can't turn right on red in a certain intersection. It is possible, but forbidden.)
- D. The difference between those who are in the world, and those who are Xians should be obvious; manifest (1Jn. 3:10).
- E. Xians will not practice sin because they have died to sin (Rom. 6:4-12).

#### **CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. The power of these verses is in the term whosoever.
- B. Whosoever:
  - 1. Denies the Son does not have God.
  - 2. Hates his brother is a murderer.
  - 3. Confesses X has the Father also.
  - 4. Believes in X is born of God.
  - 5. Is born of God does not practice sin.
- C. Whosoever wants to come to God through X may do so (Mt.11:28).
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.