BOOK OF 1 JOHN

Lesson #2 -Fellowship with God Scripture Reading: 1John 1:5-2:2

Introduction:

- 1. NOTE: This letter was written to Christians. Only those cleansed by the blood of Jesus can have fellowship with God.
- 2. We have to be sinless to walk with God.

I. THE NATURE OF GOD -1:5, 6

- A. GOD IS LIGHT
 - 1. The character of light
 - a. He is the Father of lights -Ja 1:17
 - b. He is the Creator of light -Ge 1:3
 - c. He dwells in unapproachable light -1Ti 6:16
 - 2. Opposed to the darkness
 - a. Darkness is the realm of the devil -Ep 6:12
 - b. Darkness is the realm of the wicked -Jn 3:19-21
 - 3. We have been transformed
 - a. We have been delivered from the darkness -Ep 5:8; Co 1:13
 - b. We have been called into His marvelous light -1Pe 2:9

B. WE MUST WALK IN THE LIGHT

- 1. When one follows Jesus he will walk in the light -Jn 8:12
- 2. We cannot walk in both light and darkness -2Co 6:14; Mt 15:8, 9; Am 5:21, 22
- How can man, who sins and falls short of God's glory, walk with Him? Consider three aspects of Jesus that makes this possible --

II. THE BLOOD OF JESUS -1:7-10

- A. WE HAVE FELLOWSHIP
 - 1. Baptized into one body -1Co 12:13; 26, 27
 - 2. We bear each others burdens -Ga 6:2

B. WE ARE CLEANSED

- 1. "Cleansed" -Present tense. Constant process contingent upon us walking in the light.
- 2. This cleansing is not automatic
 - a. We must confess our sins -1Jn 1:9
 - i. Private sins -Lk 18:13
 - ii. Public sins -2Co 2:1-11
 - b. Keep His commandments -1Jn 2:3; 5:3

C. WE ACKNOWLEDGE SIN -1:8-10

- 1. Some deny the state of sin -vs. 8
 - a. They believe sin cannot tarnish the soul
 - b. If so, the truth is not in us

- 2. Others deny the act of sin-vs. 10
 - a. All have sinned -Ro 3:23
 - b. If we are not sinners, the cross is of no effect

III. THE AID OF JESUS

A. HE IS OUR ADVOCATE

- 1. That we may not sin
 - a. We always strive not to sin
 - b. If and when we do, we have help
- 2. Jesus speaks on our behalf
 - a. He is pure (No one else could fill this role. -Ac 4:12; 1Ti 2:5)
 - b. He is our High Priest -He 7:25-27
 - c. He is the just for the unjust -1Pe 3:18
 - d. He bore our iniquities -Is 53:11

B. HE IS OUR PROPITIATION -2:2

- 1. Propitiation "Paid in Full"
- 2. Since we have been cleansed, we don't deny sin
- 3. We confess our sins, we obey God, and we find salvation
- 4. This grace is extended to the whole world!

Conclusion:

- 1. Gnostics are disputed against -John shows the reality of the body and the blood of Jesus
- 2. Our help today:
 - a. God is light; we must walk in that light
 - b. The blood of Jesus cleanses us still
 - c. We strive not to sin
 - d. If we do sin, we have an Advocate with the Father!