

1<sup>st</sup> John # 02

“Fellowship; The Vine and the Branches”

*John 13:6-11 John 10:24-30 John 20:1-9 John 15:1-4*

**1<sup>st</sup> John was written to believers; Jesus’ sheep, regarding their post-salvation fellowship with the Good Shepherd.**

1<sup>st</sup> John is about believers’ fellowship with God; not unbelievers’ becoming eternally related to God.

*It’s a series of tests for believers’ intimate communion in sharing communication with God, it’s not a series of tests for eternal life.*

**In the spiritual life, every Christian fumbles or sins but like football, the contest of the Christian life doesn’t end when a believer drops the ball or sins.**

God graciously provides a way to recover from sin, restore the filling of the Holy Spirit, regain fellowship with Him and keep moving forward in the spiritual life.

*Recovery offers us continual gracious chances to be winners in the Christian life.*

**No matter how many sins we commit in our Christian life, our eternal relationship with God can NEVER be broken because the unbreakable promises of God guarantee our transgressions will not be remembered.**

The penalty for sin is removed once and for all at the cross but repercussions of personal sin in our lives must be addressed.

*When a believer sins, the initial repercussion is loss of fellowship with God and loss of the filling of the Holy Spirit; his power in the Christian life.*

**Old Testament believers weren’t saved because of the sacrifices, they were saved because of their faith in God’s provision of the Savior.**

And they weren’t sanctified by obeying the Law; the Law was given to show that they were sinners.

*To say that confession in the New Testament is legalistic, is to say that salvation and sanctification in the Old Testament was based on legalistic works, not grace.*

**An abode is where we live and when we’re abiding in the soul fortress God provided for us, we are protected.**

Without understanding the purpose of 1<sup>st</sup> John, we’ll never interpret the epistle properly and that guarantees false application.

*There are two systems of power in which man is controlled by a dynamic greater than himself; the enabling power of the Holy Spirit and the self-righteous power of Satan’s world system.*