*“With the Master Before the Mirror of God’s Word”* by Susan Heck

A Ladies Bible Study on First John

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

*As often as “we reflect on our Saviour’s first coming…do we also reflect on His second coming?” Susan wants us to contemplate: “This same Saviour who came the first time to die for our sins, is coming again the second time to judge the living and the dead for their sins. This same righteous Saviour who came the first time is going to come the second time and take His righteous ones home with Him.” (pg. 137)*

**Susan’s Summary** of Chapter 10– “Living in Light of the Lord’s Return” – 1 John 2:28-3:3 (pg. 147-148)

“Through the Apostle John we have addressed two important questions.

**FIRST**, we asked *“How Should We Live in Light of the Lord’s Return? (2:28a, 29; 3:3)”* Three ways:

“…to *abide in Him* goes beyond being *in Him*, suggesting an intimate relationship of abiding or remaining. It involves personal determination and effort until the coming of Christ or the end of one’s life.” (pg.138-139)

1. **Abide in Him**. Are you abiding in Him?

2. **Practice righteousness**. Are you doing what is right?

3. **Purify yourself**. How are you purifying yourself?

**SECOND**, we asked *“Why Should We Live this Way in Light of The Lord’s Return? (2:28; 3:2)”* Four reasons:

“One day Christ will be made visible once again. He will appear. And John says abide in Him so that when He does come back *we may have confidence*.” (pg.140)

1. **We will have confidence when He comes.** Will you be bold at the Lord’s return?

2. **We will not be ashamed at His coming.** Will you shrink in shame at His return?

3. **We will be like Him.** Are you excited at the prospect of a new body?

4. **We will see Him.** “This is the fourth reason to live holy in view of His return—*we will see Him*. This is perhaps the most blessed reason to live a holy life till He returns. We will be forever with the one who died for us!” (pg.145) Is this your heart’s cry—to see Him?

***The fact of the Lord’s coming should be a motivator for us to live in holiness.***  As we think about His first coming, let us also think about His second coming. Let us live in light of one day standing before Him and giving an account of our lives. What are the ways in which we should be living?

They are: abiding in Him, practicing righteousness, and purifying ourselves. And the wonderful results will be confidence when He comes, not being ashamed when He comes, being like Him, and seeing Him!

What great things await those who love God and who are called according to His purpose!”