

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: I John 2:28 - 3:15

<sup>2:28</sup> And now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears we may have confidence and not shrink from Him in shame at His coming. <sup>29</sup> If you know that He is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of Him.

<sup>3:1</sup> See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure.

<sup>4</sup> Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> You know that He appeared in order to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup> No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him. <sup>7</sup> Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous. <sup>8</sup> Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup> No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in Him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God. <sup>10</sup> By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

<sup>11</sup> For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. <sup>12</sup> We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. <sup>13</sup> Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. <sup>14</sup> We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. <sup>15</sup> Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

Luke 24:36 - 49

<sup>36</sup> As they were talking about these things, Jesus Himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" <sup>37</sup> But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. <sup>38</sup> And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?" <sup>39</sup> See My hands and My feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup> And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup> They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and He took it and ate before them.

<sup>44</sup> Then He said to them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup> Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from On High."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

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