

**WEEK 9: TEST #3 TEST OF OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD**  
**1 JN 2:3-6 Part 2**

**I. REVIEW**

- A. 3<sup>rd</sup> test with the declaration V3 “by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments”.
- B. John’s purpose of writing this letter→ 1Jo 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God **that you may know that you have eternal life.**
- C. **Obedience is one of the sure fired ways to know → This is a NON-negotiable!**
- D. 4 Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,
- E. earlier, 1Jo 1:6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.
- F. Cannot walk in darkness be in fellowship with Christ as He is all light!
  - 1. 1Jo 1:5 ¶ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

**II. TEST MANIFESTED**

- A. **Test of true salvation is how we live our lives**
- B. **NOT a command for perfect sinless living**→test for the direction of your life!
- C. V5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:
  - 1. **keeps his word** – “attends to carefully or practices” → present active verb– occurs continuously→ as a habit of life
  - 2. **love of God is perfected** – completed – perfect passive tense meaning an action is done on you by God– it happened , current and completed
  - 3. **love of God** – means all the affection and admiration and surrender that a believer has **FOR** God
    - a. Ro 5:5 . . . God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
      - (1) indwelling love given to a believer results in the ongoing desire to obey
      - (2) not just an emotional love but an “agape” all in sacrificial love
    - b. Submitting entirely to His authority in your life
    - c. Moses summarized the Law to love God: De 6:5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

D. Jesus speaking—>Joh 5:42 But I know that you do not have the love of God within you.

E. **By this we may know that we are in him:**—>

1. **By this we may know** —> “keeping, Jesus’ commands is the foremost evidence of one who **has the love of God in them** because God has poured it into them.”
2. God changes our hearts from stone to flesh, He gives to us a desire to follow Him.
3. God will continually sanctify the believer throughout their lives, demonstrated in obedience to His Word.

F. **If one does NOT keep His commands, claim of fellowship has no evidence**

1. Those that are of Christ have His Truth in them— they hear Christ’s voice
  - a. Joh 18:37 Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. **Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.**”

G. **John is NOT suggesting that righteous works saves anyone, but if they are saved and the truth is in them, these will be obedient.**

### III. TEST DEMONSTRATED

A. **“that we are in him”**—> “in Christ” is how Paul characterizes Christians

1. John calls it “abiding in Christ”
2. In fellowship with Him, knowing and loving Him—>Eternal life is “knowing God”!

B. **6 whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.**

1. if you are in fellowship with God and Christ then you will walk as He walked

C. We will only be successful in obeying Christ if we are “[abiding] in him”

D. You cannot do this on your own will power— you will fail!

E. Jesus commands believers: Joh 15:4 **Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.**

F. If you are in fellowship with Him, you will abide in Him, and if you abide in Him, you will obey Him

G. You will **walk in the same way in which he walked.**

1. Not a suggestion, but a requirement
2. This is put into the one who is born from above
3. They desire it, they live it out in their walk.

#### **IV. Summation**

- A. Christians will not live a perfect life as our flesh is not yet perfected.
- B. Christ is the model, the example that we who are in fellowship will follow.
- C. Those that claim to know Him will demonstrate it in their lives by obedience.
- D. They will desire to walk in the light, the truth that Christ reveals to them
- E. Will guard His commands in their life because they love the Lord and they love His commands.
- F. This is the evidence of true saving faith!

#### **V. Discussion Questions**

- A. What did John mean when he said we must walk as Jesus did?
- B. How is that even possible?
- C. What is the difference in John telling us that obedience is evidence of salvation and the Pharisees legalism to obtain salvation?