

CHAPTER 11

Signs Of Life (Continued)

SIGN OF LIFE # 3--The person who has life LOVES HIS BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST (1 John 3:14).

The Lord Jesus has told us that the person who is a true believer has passed from _____ unto _____ (John 5:24). How can I know whether or not I have truly passed from _____ unto _____? God's answer is found in 1 John 3:14 (fill in the blanks and then circle the correct answer):

"I _____ that I have passed from _____ unto _____ because . . .

- a. . . .when I was 10 years old I asked Jesus into my heart.
- b. . . . I once made a decision for Christ at the close of a church service.
- c. . . . I once attended an evangelistic service and I accepted the Lord at that time.
- d. . . . *right now* something is true about my life--I love my brothers and sisters in Christ.

How do you know that you are alive physically? Because *right now* there are signs of life present (such as pulse, breathing, movement, etc.).

The person who does not _____ his brother has not passed from _____ unto _____ because he still abides _____ (1 John 3:14).

There are two things that are true in the life of a person who is a child of the devil (1 John 3:10):

1. He does not live a righteous life.
2. He does not _____.

What message has God given to the believer (1 John 3:11)?
 _____ In 1 John 3:12 we learn that Cain (see Genesis 4:1-11) was a child of _____ because two things were true about Cain's life (1 John 3:12):

1. We know that Cain did not live a righteous life because his own works _____.
2. We know that Cain did not love his brother because _____.

Read 1 John 3:17 and answer TRUE or FALSE:

_____ This verse is talking about a person who sees a real need in his brother's life.

_____ This person is able to meet this need.

_____ This person is willing to meet this need.

_____ This person refused to meet this need.

_____ The love of God dwells in this person.

_____ This person is probably a true believer.

_____ This person is just like the person described in James 2:15-16.

Do we prove that we love a person by saying, "I love you!" (1 John 3:18)? _____

There are two things that are true about the person who really loves (1 John 4:7):

1. He is _____ of _____.
2. He knows _____ (Compare John 17:3--salvation is not doing SOMETHING; it is knowing SOMEONE!)

What can we say about the person who does not love (1 John 4:8)?

_____ If a man says that he loves God but hates his brother, does he really love the invisible God (1 John 4:20)? _____ The person who truly loves God should also _____ (1 John 4:21 and compare 1 John 2:9-11).

In John 13:34 the Lord Jesus, on the night before He died on the cross, gave His disciples a new commandment: "That ye _____ one another; _____, that ye also love one another." This means that we should love our fellow believers in the same way that _____ loved us! If Christ could love a rotten sinner like you (see Romans 5:6-8), then can you love your brothers and sisters in Christ? _____ How is the world going to know that we are true disciples of Christ (John 13:35)?

If a person truly loves his brothers and sisters in Christ, will he desire to assemble together with them in a Bible-teaching church (compare Hebrews 10:25; Acts 2:42)? _____ Did the early church care for one another in love (Acts 2:44-45)? _____

Circle the correct answer:

In order for a person to get saved he must. . .

- a. . . . believe in the historical reality of Adam and Eve and Jonah and the whale.
- b. . . . desire the Word of God and read his Bible every day.
- c. . . . love his brothers and sisters in Christ.
- d. . . . believe on the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31).

Important: Once a person BELIEVES on the Saviour, *then* GOD HIMSELF will work in that person's life (Philippians 2:13) and God's mighty working will be seen in the person's desire for God's Word, love for the brethren, etc. Don't put the cart before the horse! A person must have life before he can show forth life! In other words, **don't try to live the Christian life before you become a Christian!**

Do you really love the saints? Do you pray for them? Do you enjoy being with them? Do you assemble together with them? Do you love being with the children of God more than the children of the devil (Psalm 119:63)? "Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith"! Are you dead or alive?

SIGN OF LIFE #4--The person who has life OBEYS THE WORD OF GOD (1 John 2:3).

The person who has eternal life is the person who _____ the only true God and _____ whom He has sent (John 17:3). How can we *know* whether or not we really know Christ as our personal Saviour and Lord? According to 1 John 2:3, if a person truly knows Christ what will he do? _____ Consider the person who says, "I'm so glad that I know the Lord Jesus as my Saviour" but as you observe his life you notice that he does not seem to live according to the Word of God. What are two things that are probably true about this person (1 John 2:4)? 1. _____ 2. _____

According to 1 John 5:3, what is the love of God? _____ We know that God's commandments are not _____ (heavy, burdensome). Is it a heavy burden for us to do what God tells us to do? _____ Does God give us commandments so that He can make life miserable for us? _____ Is it true that we are usually most miserable when we fail to obey the Lord? _____ Did David feel that the commandments of the Lord were grievous (Psalm 19:7-11)? _____ In Deuteronomy 6:24 we learn that God has commanded us to do certain things "for our _____" (compare Deuteronomy 10:13; Jer. 32:39). God wants the very best for us!!

If a person loves Christ, what will he do (John 14:15)? _____ The person who truly loves Christ is the person who 1) has His _____ and 2) _____ (obeys) His commandments (John 14:21). If a person really loves the Lord Jesus then he will _____ (obey) Christ's _____ (John 14:23). The person who does not love Christ does not _____ (John 14:24). Therefore, how can the believer SHOW that he really loves the Saviour? _____

Now obviously, no believer keeps God's commandments perfectly. We fumble, fail and fall in many ways. So what does 1 John 2:3-4 really mean?

Consider the Lord's disciples. Were they perfectly obedient? Did one of them ever deny the Lord? Did they all run like scared rabbits when the Lord was arrested? Did they fumble and fall and fail at times? We are amazed then to see what the Lord said about these men in John 17:6: "they have _____ thy _____." Though there were moments of disobedience, their lives were characterized by OBEDIENCE. *Illustration:* If you took a snapshot of Peter denying His Lord, you would conclude that he was very unfaithful to his Lord. But if you could film his entire life since He met Christ, you would be forced to conclude that his life was characterized by faithfulness and obedience.

As you observe some lives, you discover that there are people who could care less about obeying God or doing what the Bible says. Their lives are characterized by DISOBEDIENCE and according to 1 John 2:3-4 they do not really know the Lord.

Do you really love the Lord Jesus? Do you listen to His voice by reading His Word every day? Do you obey His voice? Do you seek to live your life according to the Word of God? Are you willing to do whatever the Bible says? Are you walking on the path of obedience? "Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith!" Are you dead or alive?

An old Methodist evangelist named Dr Morrison taught the doctrine of holiness and it was said that he came closer to practising it than most folks do. Someone said to the preacher one day, with tongue in cheek, 'Dr Morrison, have you reached a point in your life where you cannot sin?' Dr Morrison wisely replied, with a twinkle in his eye, '*No, my brother, I have not yet arrived at such a place, but I can tell you where I am right now; I have come to a place where I sin but cannot enjoy it.*' That is the secret, it really is! The key question is, is that where I am today in my relationship with the Lord? Have I come to such a place in my life, a place where I sin but cannot enjoy it?
