

The qualities of a Godly man, as shown through Jesus Christ

OUTLINE

Section I, overview: Living a godly life as a man is impossible without Christ. There is little point in the pursuit of these qualities and glories if a man lacks all power necessary to accomplish them or desire to pursue them. Therefore, as it says, we are to test our salvation to see if it is truly genuine, to see if we are indeed saved. The outcome of this pursuit is always joy. Either you come to find that you are not saved, and you receive salvation and rejoice; or you come to find you are saved, and rejoice in that newfound or strengthened assurance. If we fail the tests, the solution is not to try harder to accomplish something; no, for salvation is a gift and cannot be earned. Those who climb up the wall are thieves and robbers; only those who enter through The Gate will find life. If a man fails the tests, it reveals not a lack of diligence or character but a lack of salvation. That man must truly believe, He must pursue God until He becomes regenerated and receives a new heart and spirit. The tests found in 1 John are evidences of a truth, mainly this: Jesus truly and literally dwells within us and has literally and manifestly changed our nature, and as a result there are certain attitudes and actions that should now be naturally apparent. The regenerated man is a new creature; and although we are far from perfect, yet there should be at least in part these evidences, and most certainly a steady increase in these areas over the course of our lives, even if that increase be small.

Section I, Part I: Testing our Salvation in 1 John [c.f., Appendix A]

Summary: The man who is truly saved continually believes in and confesses Jesus, and has supernatural assurance from The Spirit. He conducts his life in the light, bringing his deeds and thoughts continually to Jesus, so that they might be purified and that he might walk more and more as Jesus walked. He is aware of his sinfulness, but quickly confesses and turns away from it, and desires to, and most of the time, obeys God's commands, which He fervently pursues and through God's Spirit obtains understanding into them. As he does pursue this chief passion of pleasing and knowing God, the true Christian man will naturally long for and fellowship with other Christian men, and love them through acts of kindness. In all of this, the simple hope of the gospel and Jesus' love is an eternal flame for Him, and to keep it burning, he will set himself apart from the world and its lusts and deeds.



Video: Outline Pts I-VI

- I. **One of the reasons John wrote this epistle was to give assurance of salvation to those who would read it.**
 - a. 1 John 5:13
 - b. 2 Corinthians 13:5 – *testing our salvation is commanded and necessary*
- II. **Those who are saved do not conduct their life in darkness, but on the contrary, they practice truth and conduct their life in the light.**
 - a. 1 John 1:6-7
 - b. John 3:20-21
 - c. Ephesians 5:13
 - d. Psalms 139:23-24
- III. **Those who are saved experience, pursue, and remain in fellowship with other believers.**
 - a. 1 John 1:6-7
 - b. 1 John 2:18-19
- IV. **The one who is truly believing in Jesus, admits 1. He has sinned, 2. He still sins, and 3. That sin is still in him. The true Christian also confesses the sin to God; and turns from it (repents).**
 - a. 1 John 1:8-2:1
 - b. Romans 6:1-2
 - c. 1 John 2:29; 3:1-10
 - d. Psalms 25:8
- V. **The true believer keeps God's commandments.**
 - a. 1 John 2:3-5; 5:2-3
- VI. **The true Christian lives a lifestyle like Jesus. The Christian will be always in a process of being conformed into Jesus' image and will be becoming more like Him.**
 - a. 1 John 2:6
 - b. Luke 6:40
 - c. 1 Peter 1:15-16
- VII. **The true Christian man will love his fellow Christian brothers/sisters.**
 - a. 1 John 2:9-11; 3:10-11, 14-19; 4:7-8, 20-5:1
- VIII. **The Christian understands the truth of God's word.**
 - a. 1 John 2:19-21
 - b. John 16:13
 - c. 1 Corinthians 2:12
 - d. 1 John 4:6
- IX. **The Christian abides in the simple truth of the gospel and is not dislodged from that hope.**



Video: Outline Pts VII-XII

- a. 1 John 2:24, 27
 - b. Colossians 1:21-23
- X. **The true Christian will not love the world or the things of the world.**
 - a. 1 John 2:15-17
 - b. James 4:4
- XI. **The true Christian acknowledges and confesses Jesus as Christ; believes in Jesus; confesses that Jesus came in the flesh; and confesses that Jesus is the Son of God.**
 - a. 1 John 2:22-23; 3:23; 4:2-3, 14-15
- XII. **The true Christian will have supernatural assurance through the indwelling Holy Spirit.**
 - a. 1 John 3:24
 - b. Romans 8:16

Section I Part I, Questions

Part I: Testing our Salvation

1. Before going through the outline, answer: Are you saved? How do you know? What is the proof in your life?
2. What does it mean to practice the truth or to walk in light?
3. What is the biblical definition of fellowship?
4. What is the Christian's pattern of living, in terms of sin and righteousness?
5. Why is obedience linked with salvation? With loving brothers/sisters in Christ?
6. What does it mean to love (agape)? How does one's life prove they love?
7. Why is it so important to believe Jesus came, and is coming back again, in the flesh?

Section I, Part I: Fill in the blank Summary

Paul commands us to “_____ yourselves, whether ye be in the faith...” [2 Cor 13:5] One of the reasons John wrote 1 John, he says, “that ye may know that ye have _____ life...” [1 Jn 5:13] Therefore, through reading 1 John we can come to certain conclusions regarding our salvation. Jesus says, “a good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit...wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.” [Mt 7:18, 20] And so, by looking at the fruit of our own lives, we can prove the trueness of our salvation: that is, do we exhibit those things which The Holy Spirit, through John, tells us are present in true believers? Therefore, we see that the true believer will “walk in the _____,” [1 Jn 1:7] that is, he will “practice _____.” [Jn 3:20-21] Furthermore, the true believer will remain in and pursue Christian fellowship, which means to experience face-to-face interaction which centers upon and glorifies _____. In relation to his Christian brethren, the true believer will also agape love, which is to, as Jesus did, “lay down [their] _____ for the brethren,” which includes loving not just in word but “in _____ and _____” through useful acts of kindness. [1 Jn 3:16-18] Additionally, this love is proved in _____; for “by this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and _____ His commandments.” [1 Jn 5:2] And ultimately, the true Christian who loves God in truth will “_____ His commandments; and His commandments are not _____” to them. [1 Jn 5:3] The true Christian will maintain a lifestyle like Jesus, practicing _____, for “he that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also to _____ even as He _____.” [1 Jn 2:6; 3:10] However, we do know that these things are hard, and surely we shall not do them continually and always. But, in general, the Christian will maintain these lifestyles with a continued, albeit slow, progress. Therefore, the true Christian will admit that he has _____, still _____, still yet has _____ within himself, and will thus confess and turn from such when it is revealed to him. [1 Jn 1:8-2:1] Though we sin and do fail, yet the true Christian will never depart from the pure and simple truth of the gospel, but will abide in such, confessing that Jesus is the _____ and came in the _____, [1 John 2:22-23; 3:23; 4:2-3, 14-15] not loving the _____ or

the things therein. [1 Jn 2:24, 27, Col 1:21-23, 1 Jn 2:15-17] Finally, the true Christian will have supernatural assurance that The _____ dwells in him. [1 Jn 3:24, Rom 8:16]

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Section I, Part I, APPENDIX A, TESTING YOUR SALVATION

Summary: This section expands upon Section I. If you would like even more detail, see A2 at the end of the book. This appendix contains the full text of a book entitled, “*That Ye May Know That Ye Have Eternal Life*,” and is designed to walk a professing Christian through an examination of their souls, to see if they are truly saved.

- I. One of the reasons John wrote this epistle was to give assurance of salvation to those who would read it.
 - i. 1 John 5:13 – “*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of The Son of God.*”
 - ii. The testing of your faith produces joy. For John also writes a second motive for writing: “*and these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.*” 1 John 1:4
1. Those who are saved **do not conduct their life in darkness**, but on the contrary, **they practice truth and conduct their life in the light**.
 - i. 1 John 1:6-7 – “*If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not **practice** the truth; but if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son **is cleansing** us from all sin.*”
 - ii. Notice here that John equates walking in the light and practicing truth as the same thing. Jesus defines for us what it means to practice truth. Jesus explains that those who truly believe in Him (and are thus saved from hell and not condemned), come to The Light so that their deeds may be made manifest. Meaning, **the man which is saved will, with a clear conscience, lay bare his heart and life before God’s light, desiring for God to make manifest every work - to the intent that he might be freed from that sin.**
 1. “*For every one that **practices** evil hates the light, neither comes to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov’d. But he that **practices** truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*” John 3:20-21
 2. “*...For whatsoever doth make manifest is light.*” Ephesians 5:13b
 3. “*Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*” Psalms 139:23-24
2. Those who are saved **experience fellowship with other believers**; meaning, there is a natural, Holy Spirit produced, deeper-than-flesh connection with other Christians. Furthermore, the true Christian **maintains fellowship with other believers**; they have a lifestyle of real and continuing fellowship with other believers. Fellowship as defined by The Bible are God-focused activities with true believers of Christ who are all walking in light (and not sin).
 - i. 1 John 1:6-7 – “*If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not **practice** the truth; but if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son **is cleansing** us from all sin.*”

- ii. 1 John 2:18-19 – “Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.”
- 3. The one who is truly believing in Jesus, **admits 1. He has sinned, 2. He still sins, and 3. That sin is still in him.** The true Christian also **confesses the sin to God; and turns from it (repents).**
 - i. 1 John 1:8-2:1a – “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not...”
 - ii. Romans 6:1-2 – “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?”
 - iii. Very closely connected with this test, is one found mainly in Chapter 3 of 1 John. We see there that the man who is born of God and is a true child of God, **practices a lifestyle of righteousness and is not able to continue in a lifestyle of sin.** The Christian has a pattern of doing what is righteous. And if that man sins, through conviction of The Spirit he turns from it, not being able to continue in it for very long. The Christian **reflects a genuine hatred for sin, and a Spirit-produced motivation to avoid/turn from such things.** The true Christian **pursues moral purity in accordance with a true and faithful Revelation of Jesus.**
 - 4. 1 John 2:29 – “If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.”
 - 5. 1 John 3:2-3 – “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.”
 - 6. 1 John 3:6-7; 9-10 – “Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.”
 - iv. Also, similar to this test, John tells us that the true believer **keeps God’s commandments.** The true Christians will obey God’s word. And more than that, for the Christian, **obedience to God’s word is not grievous.**
 - 7. 1 John 2:3-5 – “And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.”
 - 8. 1 John 5:2-3 – “By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”

- v. Furthermore, the true Christian **lives a lifestyle like Jesus**. The Christian **will be always in a process of being conformed into Jesus' image and will be becoming more like Him**.
 - 9. 1 John 2:6 – “He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.”
 - 10. Luke 6:40 – “The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.”
 - 11. 1 Peter 1:15-16 – “But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, **ye will be holy; for I am holy.**”
- 4. The true Christian man will **love his fellow Christian brothers/sisters**. To love your brother means **to lay down your life as Jesus did, in tangible acts of useful kindness**.
 - i. 1 John 2:9-11 – “He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.”
 - ii. 1 John 3:10b-11 – “...whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.”
 - iii. 1 John 3:14-19 – “We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. Hereby perceive we love, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.”
 - iv. 1 John 4:7-8 – “Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”
 - v. 1 John 4:20-5:1 – “If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him.”
- 5. The Christian **understands the truth of God's word**. It may not be perfect, it may not be complete, but the true Christians understands the things of God.
 - i. 1 John 2:19a; 20-21 – “They went out from us, but they were not of us...But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.”
 - ii. John 16:13 – “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”
 - iii. 1 Corinthians 2:12 – “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.”
 - iv. 1 John 4:6 – “We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.”
 - v. Also, the Christian **abides in the simple truth of the gospel and is not dislodged from that hope**.

12. 1 John 2:24; 27 – “Let that therefore abide in you, which ye have heard from the beginning. If that which ye have heard from the beginning shall remain in you, ye also shall continue in the Son, and in the Father...But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.”
13. Colossians 1:21-23a – “And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel...”
6. The true Christian will **not love the world or the things of the world.**
 - i. 1 John 2:15-17 – “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”
 - ii. James 4:4 – “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”
7. The true Christian **acknowledges and confesses Jesus as Christ; believes in Jesus; confesses that Jesus came in the flesh; and confesses that Jesus is the Son of God.**
 - i. 1 John 2:22-23 – “Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son. Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also.”
 - ii. 1 John 3:23a – “And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ...”
 - iii. 1 John 4:2-3 – “Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”
 - iv. 1 John 4:14-15 – “And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.”
8. The true Christian will have **supernatural assurance through the indwelling Holy Spirit.**
 - i. 1 John 3:24b – “...And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.”
 - ii. Romans 8:16 – “The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:”