



Scripture Reading: Psalm 145

**How God Distinguishes Between Believers and Unbelievers
1 John 1:5-2:2**

1. True believers understand God for who He truly is (1:5)
 - a. God is Light
 - b. In Him there is absolutely no darkness
 - c. Our view of sin is in direct proportion to our view of God's of holiness

2. Hypocrites claim Christianity but live like atheists (6, 8, 10)
 - a. They lie to others about their so-called faith
 - b. They lie to themselves about being sinless
 - c. Their lifestyles make God a liar to others
 - d. They are devoid of the truth of God's word

3. A genuine believer's faith is consistent with his actions (7, 9; 2:1a)
 - a. They live their lives like they worship on Sundays
 - b. They do not deny sin in their lives
 - c. They confess their sins regularly to God

4. The finished work of Christ perpetually works to ensure the believer's salvation
 - a. Christ's death continues to cleanse believers' sins (7)
 - b. God is faithful to forgive when believers remain faithful to confess (9)
 - c. The believer's unrighteousness is cleansed by Christ's death
 - d. Christ advocates for His own people
 - e. Christ is the means and place where God's wrath is placated, propitiated, & satisfied
 - f. Do you have temporary or eternal propitiation?