

“Obedience Is Proof of Life in God” (1 John 2: 3-6)

- Something had raised the issue of the assurance of salvation
- John is addressing this issue as he writes to the church

1. The Group of Professing Believers Who Left the Church

- Vs 19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but *they went out* that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us."

2. What the False Teachers (who had left the church) Were Saying

1:6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie

1:8, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves."

1:10, "If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar."

2:4, "He who says 'I know him' but disobeys his commandments is a liar."

2:6 He who says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked

2:9 He who says he is in the light & hates his brother is in the darkness still

4:20, "If any one says 'I love God' and hates his brother, he is a liar."

3. Exposition: Three Stages

1. Connection between knowing Christ & obeying his commandments
2. Assurance that you truly know Christ if you obey his commandments
3. Anyone who says he abides in Christ will walk as Christ walked

Three Questions

1. What is meant by "knowing Him, [that is Christ]" in verse 4 ?
 2. But just how does this knowledge of God produce obedience?
 3. In what sense is our keeping God's word a perfecting of the love of God (2:5)?
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