

1 John 2 - The Mark of a Christian

February 19, 2015

1 John 2:9–11

9 HE THAT SAITH HE IS IN THE LIGHT, AND HATETH (to detest, dislike intensely, feel aversion towards, to love less) HIS BROTHER, IS IN DARKNESS EVEN UNTIL NOW.

10 HE THAT LOVETH HIS BROTHER ABIDETH IN THE LIGHT, AND THERE IS NONE OCCASION OF STUMBLING IN HIM.

11 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.

1. *These statements are conclusions of current status based upon evidence. Remember this Epistle was written to discern the false from the true, Christians from Gnostics.*

1 Thessalonians 4:9

"But as touching brotherly love YE NEED NOT THAT I WRITE UNTO YOU: FOR YE YOURSELVES ARE TAUGHT OF GOD to love one another."

John 13:35

"By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

2. *These statements are emphasizing the attitude of the heart; there are times when separation in relationship is called for by Scripture, but the separation is not one of hatred.*
3. *We are in the best spiritual condition when we are loving and serving others, free from our selfishness and pride, yielded to the love and Spirit of God dwelling within. We are in darkness when we are serving ourselves, feeding our selfishness and pride and self-absorbed. That's when we stumble and fall in darkness.*

1 John 3:14–19

14 WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE PASSED FROM DEATH UNTO LIFE, BECAUSE WE LOVE THE BRETHREN. HE THAT LOVETH NOT HIS BROTHER ABIDETH IN DEATH.

15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

17 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?

18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

19 AND HEREBY WE KNOW THAT WE ARE OF THE TRUTH, AND SHALL ASSURE OUR HEARTS BEFORE HIM.

1 John 4:7-13

7 BELOVED, LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER: FOR LOVE IS OF GOD; AND EVERY ONE THAT LOVETH IS BORN OF GOD, AND KNOWETH GOD.

8 HE THAT LOVETH NOT KNOWETH NOT GOD; FOR GOD IS LOVE.

9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

12 NO MAN HATH SEEN GOD AT ANY TIME. IF WE LOVE ONE ANOTHER, GOD DWELLETH IN US, AND HIS LOVE IS PERFECTED IN US.

13 HEREBY KNOW WE THAT WE DWELL IN HIM, AND HE IN US, BECAUSE HE HATH GIVEN US OF HIS SPIRIT.

James 3:14–18

14 BUT IF YE HAVE BITTER ENVYING (*contentious rivalry, jealousy, malice, indignation*) AND STRIFE (*contention, desire to put oneself forward*) IN YOUR HEARTS, GLORY NOT, AND LIE NOT AGAINST THE TRUTH.

15 THIS WISDOM DESCENDETH NOT FROM ABOVE, BUT IS EARTHLY, SENSUAL, DEVILISH.

16 FOR WHERE ENVYING AND STRIFE IS, THERE IS CONFUSION (*disorder, instability, disturbance*) AND EVERY EVIL WORK.

17 BUT THE WISDOM THAT IS FROM ABOVE IS FIRST PURE (*clean from carnality*), THEN PEACEABLE (*loving peace, bringing peace*), GENTLE (*mild, appropriate, patient*), AND EASY TO BE INTREATED (*easy to approach, easy to request*), FULL OF MERCY (*kindness, compassion, good will, desire to help*) AND GOOD FRUITS, WITHOUT PARTIALITY (*not favoring one over another*), AND WITHOUT HYPOCRISY (*without pretense, authentic, unfeigned, sincere, genuine*).

18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.