

1 John 3 - God's Perfect Balance of Discernment

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1 John 3:7-11

7 **LITTLE CHILDREN, LET NO MAN DECEIVE YOU: HE THAT DOETH RIGHTEOUSNESS IS RIGHTEOUS, EVEN AS HE IS RIGHTEOUS.**

8 **HE THAT COMMITTETH SIN** [*habitually - gladly - intentionally - ultimately*] **IS OF THE DEVIL; FOR THE DEVIL SINNETH FROM THE BEGINNING. FOR THIS PURPOSE THE SON OF GOD WAS MANIFESTED, THAT HE MIGHT DESTROY THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL.**

9 **WHOSOEVER IS BORN OF GOD DOETH NOT COMMIT SIN** [*habitually - gladly - intentionally - ultimately*]; **FOR HIS SEED REMAINETH IN HIM: AND HE CANNOT SIN** [*habitually - gladly - intentionally - ultimately*], **BECAUSE HE IS BORN OF GOD.**

10 **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.**

11 **FOR THIS IS THE MESSAGE THAT YE HEARD FROM THE BEGINNING, THAT WE SHOULD LOVE ONE ANOTHER.**

GOD'S PERFECT BALANCE OF DISCERNMENT, THOSE WHO:

- DO RIGHTEOUSNESS
- LOVE

There are those who insist on righteousness and morality, but do not love; they are often self-righteous, proud, critical and judgmental.

There are those who insist on love (tolerance), but accept and overlook worldly, carnal, sinful behavior.

BOTH ARE EQUALLY WRONG BEFORE GOD; they are NOT of God.

Philippians 1:9-11

9 **AND THIS I PRAY, THAT YOUR LOVE MAY ABOUND YET MORE AND MORE IN KNOWLEDGE AND IN ALL JUDGMENT** (*discernment, perception*);

10 **THAT YE MAY APPROVE** (*test, examine, prove, scrutinize*) **THINGS THAT ARE EXCELLENT; THAT YE MAY BE SINCERE AND WITHOUT OFFENCE TILL THE DAY OF CHRIST;**

11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

Proverbs 16:6

"BY MERCY (*kindness, mercy, pity, goodness*) **AND TRUTH INIQUITY IS PURGED** (*cover, purge, atone*): **And BY THE FEAR OF THE LORD MEN DEPART FROM EVIL."**

John 8:3-11

3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,

4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.

5 **NOW MOSES IN THE LAW COMMANDED US, THAT SUCH SHOULD BE STONED: BUT WHAT SAYEST THOU?**

6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not.

7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.

8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground.

9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

10 When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, **WOMAN, WHERE ARE THOSE THINE ACCUSERS? HATH NO MAN CONDEMNED THEE?**

11 She said, No man, Lord. **AND JESUS SAID UNTO HER, NEITHER DO I CONDEMN THEE: GO, AND SIN NO MORE.**

Luke 9:51-56

51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,

52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

54 And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, **LORD, WILT THOU THAT WE COMMAND FIRE TO COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN, AND CONSUME THEM, EVEN AS ELIAS DID?**

55 **BUT HE TURNED, AND REBUKED THEM, AND SAID, YE KNOW NOT WHAT MANNER OF SPIRIT YE ARE OF.**

56 **FOR THE SON OF MAN IS NOT COME TO DESTROY MEN'S LIVES, BUT TO SAVE THEM. AND THEY WENT TO ANOTHER VILLAGE.**

2 Timothy 2:22-26

22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

23 But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

24 **AND THE SERVANT OF THE LORD MUST NOT STRIVE (*war of words, quarrel, dispute, debate*); **BUT BE GENTLE** (*mild, kind*) **UNTO ALL MEN, APT** (*skillful, able*) **TO TEACH, PATIENT** (*forbearing of ills and wrongs*),**

25 **IN MEEKNESS** (*gentleness of spirit, mild disposition*) **INSTRUCTING THOSE THAT OPPOSE THEMSELVES; IF GOD PERADVENTURE WILL GIVE THEM REPENTANCE TO THE ACKNOWLEDGING OF THE TRUTH;**

26 **AND THAT THEY MAY RECOVER THEMSELVES OUT OF THE SNARE OF THE DEVIL,** who are taken captive by him at his will.

Ephesians 4:14-15

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But **SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE, MAY GROW UP INTO HIM IN ALL THINGS,** which is the head, even Christ: