



Series: 1 John

Lesson: 1. Introduction

Passage: various

- **Background**

- Time/place: late 1st century/Asia Minor

- The main point: How do we know real Christians from

_____?

- Main theme: assurance of _____
(_____)

1 John 5:13 – These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

John 20:31 – but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

1 John 2:19 – They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.

- **A Book of _____**
 - These keep showing up:
 - _____ vs. darkness
 - _____ vs. lies
 - _____ vs. hate
 - They assure Christians by sharpening their _____
 - There is a complete, qualitative difference between saved and unsaved people.
 - These illustrations lend themselves to extreme statements we must apply carefully based on context.

FOR EXAMPLE...

1 John 1:8 – If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

VERSUS...

1 John 3:6 – No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him.

- **Four _____ of Salvation (the Main
' _____ ' of the Book)**

1. _____

- Those truly saved will know and understand Who Jesus Christ is and _____ that truth.
- The distinction between those the Father accepts and those He doesn't: Do they know _____?

2. _____

- Those who truly belong to Christ will obey Him.

John 14:15 – “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”

- This is also referred to as whether or not someone keeps on _____.
- True Christianity has no place for
_____.

3. Loving our _____

- The way we treat fellow Christians is clear evidence of the state of our souls.
- Our behavior toward them is supposed to be radically different *because* we are in Christ.

4. The _____

- He is proof of our salvation and a testimony to the truth.
- This is the answer to fears of antinomianism.
 - i. He will confess Christ through believers.
 - ii. He will cause us to keep God's commandments.
 - iii. He will create the change in us to truly love our brothers.
- He guarantees that true salvation will bear itself out in ways that false converts cannot

_____.

What Do We Do with These Truths?

1. What are some ways false converts and those who walk away (apostates) challenge your faith?
2. How do you decide between people who disagree about what real Christianity is?
3. Why are *all four* of John's assurances of salvation essential to giving you any real confidence about your faith?

Blanks: false believers, salvation, discernment, Contrasts, discernment, Proofs, Applications, Theology, confess, His Son, Obedience, antinomianism, brothers, Holy Spirit, duplicate