



Series: 1 John

Lesson: 9. Children of the Devil

Passage: 1 John 3:4–10

**STRONGLY Recommended Reading: 1 John (weekly) & Gospel of John
(at least once during our study)**

Three Truths About Those Who Practice Sin

1. They practice _____ . (vv4–6)

- Sin is really a rebellion against God _____ .

- All that rejects God is to be removed so that God's _____ is in perfect relationship with Him once more.

- He's not teaching perfectionism (cf. 1:8–10), but he is saying the regular pattern of our lives shouldn't be blatant, _____ sin.

- You can't say you love Christ while sinning because He is _____!

2. They are of the _____ . (vv7–8)

- Watch out for the deceit of those who say we can be in Christ yet live unchanged _____!
- What we practice reveals our _____.
- Jesus came to remove the harm done to Creation by introducing _____.

3. They are not _____ of God. (vv9–10)

- What is the 'seed' abiding in us?
 - Christ? (cf. Gen. 3:15; Gal. 3:16)
 - The Gospel? (cf. Matt. 13/Mark4/Luke 8)
 - The Word? (1 Pet. 1:23)
- Whatever God has put in us affects our _____.

- The final summary:
 - We each have a relationship with either God or the devil.
 - What people do makes their faith (or lack thereof) obvious.
 - Practicing righteousness and loving our brethren is the _____ test of faith.

What Do We Do with These Truths?

1. Just because our works don't save us doesn't mean they don't _____.

2. Remember to be "_____ as serpents and _____ as doves."

Matt. 10:16 – "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How does it change your perception of yourself and the people around you to think of everyone as either children of God or children of the devil?
2. How is it helpful to think of sin and lawlessness as two separate but simultaneous concepts?
3. Describe the appropriate way to use the ethical test of faith for yourself and for others.
4. Explain the balance of 'wisdom and innocence' you should use with your approach to people in your church.

Blanks: Lawlessness, Himself, Creation, unrepentant, sinless, devil, lives, character, sin, begotten, behavior, ethical, matter, shrewd, innocent