

Title: Walk as He walked

Text: I John 2:3-11

Would you take your Bibles, please, and turn to the little book of I John. I John chapter 2 beginning with Vs 3.

The book is dealing with the great doctrine of Assurance. You can know and have confidence that you are saved. "These things," John says, "I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life.

I John chapter 2 beginning with Vs 3...(VS 3-11)

Prayer

Our Father, we pray that you would guide our steps through your Word. We thank you for the ministry of the Holy Spirit. That at any one moment of time our whole life can be changed. And I pray that you would help us to be responsive to your word that we would ask: "LORD! WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT ME TO DO?" We thank you, Father, that in every passage of scripture there is a lesson for us. That your entire Word is profitable for teaching, for correction, and instruction in righteousness. We ask that the Holy Spirit would be our teacher this morning.

And we pray this in the name of Jesus our Lord.....Amen

(4B) Beginning with verse 3 of chapter 2 and going through Vs 11, John is dealing with ~~the~~ <sup>Can that</sup> question: ~~WHAT IS THE TEST BY WHICH WE KNOW WE ARE SAVED?~~ <sup>WE CAN KNOW WITHOUT A SHADOW OF DOUBT THAT</sup> what is the test so that we will know that we are not making a false claim, but we know what we are talking about? ~~We know~~ we are truly in Christ. That we are saved. That we are christians. What is the test?....

(14) Vs 3: gives us the test:...."and by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep his commandments."

(10) ~~The~~ The main proof, according to the Bible, centers in keeping His <sup>First of all, this knowledge</sup> commandments. And I notice from this verse that ~~it~~ <sup>is</sup> is based on Personal experience.

The ~~first~~ word "know" in verse 3 is referring to a continual day by day knowledge by experience. You are confident that you are a child of God, that you are truly saved. And this confidence is based on a personal day by day experience. We know that of which we speak because we are experiencing it, daily. We have a dialy experience of this fact.

Vs 3 also says, "that we know him."...This verb is in the perfect tense meaning: "that we have come to know him," at a point in the past and ~~now~~ it has a present finished result!....

And Daily, I am experiencing knowledge in this thing....keeping his commandments. The person who is keeping Christ's commandments as a habit of life, John says, is continually experiencing knowledge and assurance that he has really come to know Christ....

So, ~~My friends~~, the test by which you know whether or not you are a Christian, according to John, is KEEPING GOD'S COMMANDMENTS. <sup>And that is based on a personal experience</sup> ~~It is based on a personal experience of these commands.~~

(20) Now, secondly, let me ask: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS?

The word "KEEP" means "TO WATCH" or "TO GUARD"....The Commandments is not the word "LAWS." <sup>This</sup> ~~It~~ is not referring to O.T. law at all. It is referring to HIS commandments. The commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ. You ask: "Well, what commandments are those?".....

A brief study on my part of the commands that I was able to find, I developed a list of <sup>501</sup>1,050 commandments.....Quite a number.....It is not law, but it refers to our Lord's direct instructions and commands that He, himself gave. Christians asre to obey. Not out of a motive of obligation or fear, but of love.....

In John 14:15 Jesus said: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments!"  
SO, Keeping His commandments is the proof that you will acquire through daily personal experience that you have really come to know Christ...

So File 7  
But please note: I do not keep Christ's commandments in order to be saved. I keep his commandments and through that as a product of my life I gain experience that convinces me that I am saved....

Or, let me put it this way: The way you become a christian is by FAITH AND FAITH ALONE...You confess your sin and receive Christ by faith for what he has done for you.....So, I don't keep His commandments in order to be saved. I keep them knowing that through them, I am experiencing knowledge and conviction and assurance that I am really His.. That is what John is saying... *His Spirit witness to my spirit and convinces me that I am a child of God*

and  
By the way, John is teaching this principle as a habit of life. A constant habit of life, as Christians, guarding and watching over, caring for...~~His commandments.....~~

(3D) The third thing I want you to see is that in Vs 4 we have stated a false profession. Vs 4...."The one who says, 'I have come to know Him', and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

My friends, those are not my words. Those are words from God's Word. "The one who says, 'I know Him.'" You are giving a public testimony. You say: "I know Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior." But, you are not keeping his commandments as a habit of life. His conclusion: "We are a Liar and the truth is not in us."

and  
Again, let me remind you, that when ever you have the article "THE" before "TRUTH" in the Bible it is referring to a specific thing. And "THE TRUTH" in the Bible is always referring to Jesus. Jesus said: "I am the way, the life and the truth." Jesus is the revealed "WORD" of God. The word is written. It is THE TRUTH. There are no <sup>relative</sup> ~~subjective~~ concepts with God. They are absolutes. He is the truth. And the point is: THE TRUTH, THE WORD OF GOD, IS NOT IN YOU IF YOU SAY YOU ARE A CHRISTIAN AND YET YOU ARE NOT KEEPING HIS COMMANDMENTS.

Now, I don't keep His commandments in order to become a christian. But, if I am not concerned with His commandments, I am not following Jesus Christ in my life, and if I say I am a Christian, the Bible says: "I am a liar and the Word of God is not in me."...Meaning: the truth is not in me.

So, obviously, one who professes to be a christian, but has no regards for the commandments of our Lord -- reveals he is not in the Word and the Word is not in him..... or The Truth is not in him

(120) Now, notice, Vs 5: ~~Abraham~~ In this verse you have a guaranteed PERFECTION. A GARANTEED PERFECTION. He says: "but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected." "By this we know that we are in Him." ~~The word Perfect means~~ maturity

Now, notice, it says "whoever keeps His Word." In Vs 4, John ~~was~~ deal with commandments. The point is: his use of truth, of word, of commandment, is all referring to the same thing. We would say: "Our Bible." And especial the N.T. and the commands of Christ.

He ~~who~~ is keeping his word, according to the Bible, in that one - in him, "truly ~~(or verily)~~ <sup>Love</sup> the word of God has been perfected."

I began to think about that. You mean to tell me that I can come to a maturity in the love of God through keeping His Word? <sup>Right</sup> THAT IS WHAT JOHN SAYS. ~~That is what he says.~~ It is based on keeping the word of God. THERE IS A GARANTEE HERE. Noitce the word "TRULY ~~(or verily)~~". It means: "THIS IS OF THE TRUTH." He is not lieing to us. ~~no~~ This will actually happen in your life. If you want the love of God to be perfected in you - THEN KEEP HIS WORD.

God does not have other means by which we can reach maturity in the love of God. It is through- and only through <sup>keeping</sup> His Word.

By the way the word "PERFECTED" is a past perfect tense--which means "has been perfected." I have come to that place of maturity.

HOW DO I COME TO THAT PLACE? THROUGH THE WORD OF GOD. And the thought began to dawn upon me: "Even excuse I might give for not being mature in the love of Christ can be directly related to the Word of God. Am I keeping - Am I watching over -- am I caring <sup>For</sup> Am I guarding the Word of God in my life.

~~Has the Word of God become everything to me?~~ Has the principles of the Word of God become part of my life? Can I turn to ~~the~~ Word of God to help solve the problems of life?

Has the word of God become part of my thinking and acting? <sup>you see</sup> According to ~~the word of God~~, when that has happened, we will come to a perfection in the love of God. ~~( )~~

I want you to turn to the Gosple of John, at this point, The gospel of John, chapter 15, where we have a beautiful ~~illustration~~ <sup>we are</sup> of what Jesus is saying about what John is talking about in I John. That is: by way of a vine and branches and ~~Bruitbearing~~. John chapter 15 and beginning with Vs 1.

Read vv 1-11 and commend of them.

Notice, "LOVE" <sup>JOY</sup> are ~~very~~ related to keeping the commandments of Christ.

If my words abide in you - you will be very productive - you will bear much fruit. Keeping his commandments gives us daily experiential knowledge that we have really come to know christ. And it is obviouse from John 15 and from I John that there is a special set of commandments that he has in mind.

Notice vs 12; "This is My commandment." This is the conclusion to his discussion on the Vine and the Branches. "This is My commandment, ~~that~~ you love one another, just as I have loved you."

Now, Come back to I John, please. <sup>So</sup> According to vs 5, who ever keeps his words, his commandments, his truth, in him <sup>truly</sup> the word of God will come to maturity (which is the word for perfection). And by this we know that we are in him. <sup>N</sup>

WHAT COMMANDMENT? Well, like I have said there are over a ~~1000~~ <sup>101</sup> of them in the N.T. There are many commands. But, Jesus has referrence to certain commands that include all of the rest. ~~And I will show you what that mean in just a moment.~~ <sup>I will show you that when we look at vs 7-11</sup>

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**50** In Vs 6, HE OUTLINES <sup>FOR</sup> US THE BASIC PATTERN. "The one who says he ~~is~~ abides in Him." You say that you abide in Christ. "ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked."

It is an obvious fact that if we say we abide in Him as a habit of life, that we are truly in Christ, then we ought -- as a habit of life -- to walk in the same manner as Christ walked." It is obvious.

The concept of "Wak" is your manner of life. How you live the ~~Christian~~ Christian life. Our behaviour <sup>Patterns</sup> ~~matters~~ ought to be governed by the example of Christ. -- our life style

Now, let's take some practice situations. Tomorrow at Work or tomorrow at school. Tomorrow, someone is going to rube you the wrong way.

Walk as He walks. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? Well, Jesus didn't resist evil. He turned the other cheek. You say: "You will get both checks hit in that case." Well, that is alright. Then THEY WILL MATCH. (Ha, Ha)

Walk as he walked. You will be tempted to blow your top. But, walk as he walked. You will be tempted to cut a corner sometime this week. You will be tempted to gossip or to lie somewhere along the line this week. ~~to be dishonest~~ To be dishonest: WHAT WILL WE DO? Walk as He walked.

My friend, if you think I am saying that by ~~trying to~~ follow His commandments -- you become a christian, YOU ARE WRONG. I am ~~not~~ ~~saying~~ saying that at all. I am saying that you become a Christian by asking Christ to come into your life. But, I am saying, My Christian friends, if you know Christ then the governing principle of our life must be : Walk as he walked. WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

Now, how am I do know what Jesus would do if the "WORD" is not in me. You see, John's point. How am I going to have the love of God and a maturity so that I can love people no matter how much they hate me and try to use me -I can love them as Christ love them. HOW AM I GOING TO DO THAT?

You will be able to do it, only if the "Word of God" is in you. You see---"THE WORD OF GOD" becomes a deterrent against sin in our lives and causes us to walk as He walked. The Word of God.

I say to you, without <sup>f</sup>fear of contradiction, that " THE WORD OF GOD" has a principle that can be applied to every aspect of your life. I don't care what it is. No matter what decision you are facing, a home, a marriage, a business, your family, teenagers, no matter what your decision - "THE WORD OF GOD" has something to say to you.

*But* ~~now~~, IF WE DON'T KNOW THE WORD OF GOD-- WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO APPLY THE PRINCIPLE WHEN THE NEED ARISES. NO WAY.

The Spirit of God uses "THE WORD." And if I am going to have the love of God shede abroad <sup>in my heart</sup> by the Holy Spirit, if the Holy Spirit of God is going to control me, and love people through me, according to this passage I NEED THE WORD OF GOD IN ME. THEN AND ONLY THEN WILL THE LOVE OF GOD COME TO PERFECTION. TO WALK AS JESUS WALKED.

*and* What did he do? What did he say? What did he think? How did he react to people? HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO BE LIKE CHRIST? I mean to get down to specifics. Mark them down on a pice of paper. TO BE LIKE CHRIST. YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WILL COME UP WITH? You will decide that you need help.

And that is the wonderful thing about the control of the Holy Spirit who produces the life of Christ in us. Walk as he walked.

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(20)

Now, in verse 7-11, ~~the Lord Jesus~~ <sup>We</sup> come to the heart of the matter, for John is simple rehearsing what Jesus' taught. In regards to his ~~commands~~ <sup>Commandments</sup> on one occasion, in Matt 22, Jesus Said: that all of the commandments, everyone of them, and in this case he is referring to the law, all of the commandments can be summarized into two: One: "Thy shall love the Lord thy God with all of thy heart, thy mind, thy soul, and two: Thy shall love thy neighbor as thy self."

Question -

Do you believe that? Jesus said that all of the <sup>O.T</sup> law hangs on those two commandments. Do You Believe That?

Now, would you turn, (again) to the Gospel of John. The Gospel of John chapter 13 and vers 34 and 35. We are going to take a quite survey to emphasis the point. John 13:34-35.

Notice ~~what~~ Jesus says: "A new commandment I give to you, that you WHAT? LOVE ONE ANOTHER. " "A new commandment that you love one another as WHAT? I have love you." WHAT A STANDARD

Vs 35: "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

I don't know how many time we christians quote this verse, but then we just seem to forget it in daily life.

WHAT WILL BE THE CROWNING PROOF TO THE WORLD THAT WE BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST ? I say this carefully -- IT WILL NOT BE OUR DOCTRINE. For there are a lot of people who say they stand for the truth of the Word of God, and they believe all the fundamental percepts of God's Word, AND YET THEIR LIVES -- AT SCHOOL -- OR AT WORK -- OR IN THE HOME\* is evident to that non-christian that they are not part of Christ.

The evidence that we are really in Christ is: IF WE HAVE LOVE ONE TO ANOTHER.

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~~\_\_\_\_\_~~



*you see*

*SUFTLY*

And yet, there will be some people who will leave here today with bitterness in their heart toward someone else. And <sup>yet</sup> we say that we are abiding in Christ. We say that His word is abiding in us. HOW CAN WE SAY THIS? John's concluding is that we are ~~liars and the Word of God is not in~~ <sup>*vs 8 are walking in darkness*</sup> ~~us~~. LOVING ONE ANOTHER.

And notice how John concludes this section. Vs 10.."The one who loves his brother abides in the light and there is no cause for stumbling in him." No occasion to mislead or misguide someone. None what soever. WHY? Because we are in the light and we are living as a habit of life, a life of love..loving one another. *Walking as He Walked*

My dear friend, if you have never come to know Jesus Christ as your personnel Lord and Saviour, the Bible says that you are walking as a habit of life in darkness. You are lost in your sin. And you do not have the ability to love as God wants you to love. *And you need to get into the light - How?*

But God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son. That whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life.

Oh, I pray, dear friend, that you would, right now, ask Jesus to come into your life. *The Bible says* ~~But~~ as many as receive Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God..... *when you receive Jesus - God places you in the light -*

And my christian friends, you know why many of us never grow up in the Lord Jesus Christ? Why we remain in a carnal state? WE ARE NOT INTO THE WORD AS WE SHOULD BE. And we are not letting the Word controll or influence our lives...BELOVED! LET US WALK AS HE WALKED.

SHALL WE CLOSE IN PRAYER

*and thus*  
We are not loving one another, as we should.