

1 John 3:5-6

9-27-23 Chris Young

1 John 3:5

You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

You know that he appeared

How do we know that Christ came to earth?

1 John 1:1-2 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life. The life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us.

1 John 4:14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

The Lord became incarnate and showed himself among people for the purpose of putting an end to all sins and giving believers eternal life. He loved us so much that He gave his life up to a life of poverty, shame, sorrow, and a bitter death on the cross. He took our shame of sin and brought us peace with God. By His wounds, we are healed! Christ's is the only One who is sufficient to pay the price for every sin, once and for all!

Isaiah 53:5-6 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

1 John 4:9-14 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

In order to take away sins

Apart from God, we are eternally dead in our sins. God forgave us through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus. Through Jesus, we are given access to the Father who has freed us from the power of sin that we might be "free from sin" and "live unto righteousness." The Lord offers His children victory over temptation and cleansing from the stain of sin.

Isaiah 53:11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Romans 6:6 We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

Hebrews 9:26 For then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

Knowing the sacrifice Jesus has done for us, what should that deter us from?

Something to ponder: Am I mindful of my sin?

Why is Jesus the only One perfectly qualified to be the atoning sacrifice for sins?

And in him there is no sin

Jesus was perfect, and without sin. He was tempted in every way, just as we are, and never committed a sin. Jesus Christ is God and has no capacity to sin. He was the only One qualified to stand before the Father as an advocate who understands the struggles of humanity. He experienced the same things as others, but He overcame them. Jesus' submission to the will of the Father, and His love and compassion for sinners is what led Him to be willing to be the perfect lamb. Just as the Hebrews sacrificed perfect lambs to atone for their sins, the sacrifice to atone for humanity needed to be perfectly sinless. Jesus was that perfect and spotless sacrifice! Those who have placed their faith in Christ can be holy in God's sight and without blemish through sinless Jesus. God was able to redeem the world through His Son. He alone is worthy!

Colossians 1:22 He has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,

2 Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

1 Peter 2:22-23 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.

What are your thoughts on: Jesus was tempted in every way, just as we are, and never committed a sin?

Jesus is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature. Jesus is perfectly pure, spotless, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

Hebrews 1:3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Hebrews 7:26 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

1 John 3:6

No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has neither seen him or known him.

No one who abides in him

Abide (to stay in a given place) dwell, continue, remain.

To abide is an intimate and close relationship of fellowship. Believers will continue in their walk with Christ, and they will “abide” and remain in Him. God will complete His work in them, and they will bring forth much fruit to the glory of God. Without that vital connection with Christ that salvation provides, there can be no life and no productivity.

John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Philippians 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 2:26 The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations.

Why is it important in our spiritual walk to abide in Christ?

Something to ponder: How is my relationship with Christ? Is it intimate and close or is it distant and non-existent?

Keeps on sinning

John states that abiding in Christ and sinning as conflicting opposites. He does not mean that the believing Christians do not sin any more, or that those who still sin are not in Christ. We will continue to struggle with sin and sometimes we will give in to sin. We will never know a total absence of sin until we are with the Lord in glory.

Sin ruins the relationship God intended with us and leads us away from the only True Source of soul satisfaction. We can easily ignore Him and choose our pleasure over the joy of knowing and honoring Him. (As Sharon shared with us last week...sin is our own choice!) It is only when we recognize our sin as an abomination to God, can we fully grasp what Jesus suffered on our behalf. We constantly need both the forgiving saving grace of God and the intercession of Christ, as well as the Lord's purity and holiness. When we sin God is ready to forgive us, and we need to turn to Him immediately. He is the Savior who longs to rescue people caught in sin's trap.

1 John 1:8-10 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 2:1-2 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 3:3 And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Something to ponder: Do I realize when I am in sin, that I offend my righteous and holy God?

Why is self-examination important in our walk?

When we examine ourselves, we agree with the Lord about our sin, repent and receive His forgiveness. Self-examination keeps us honest with ourselves and with God. True self-examination must be done with the Holy Spirit who searches our hearts and thoughts and knows our motives. We can never fool God!

1 Corinthians 2:10-11 These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

Something to ponder: Am I examining my heart daily?

No one who keeps on sinning has neither seen him

What John is conveying is believers will not continue to practice sin as a way of life.

Why won't believers continue to practice sin as a way of life?

1 John 3:9 Anyone born of God refuses to practice sin, because God's seed abides in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.

Those who live their lives apart from God and continue in sin, God's Word says, "*they have never seen Him and they do not have His Word abiding in them. They refuse to come to Him that they may have life.*"

John 5:37-40 And the Father who sent me has himself borne witness about me. His voice you have never heard, his form you have never seen, and you do not have his word abiding in you, for you do not believe the one whom he has sent. You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

3 John 1:11 Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.

We need full dependence on God and not on our own abilities and strength. By following His Word, we can gradually overcome sin and become more and more like Christ. Living a surrendered life involves a commitment. It's a day by day, moment by moment decision to submit to God and His Holy Spirit instead of following our own desires. Our life should show a noticeable difference in living a life that becomes more like Christ. We must be diligent to His will and all His commands! There will be a difference between the old life without Christ and the new life in Christ, our hearts are transformed. The thief who was characterized by his theft is no longer a thief, he has a different way of life.

God not only meets our deepest need; he commits himself to the long-term process of personal heart and life transformation. He is not satisfied that we have been restored to him; he now works so that we will become like him. Paul says it this way: "For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son" (Romans 8:29). New Morning Mercies Devotional

2 Corinthians 3:18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Something to ponder: Am I being all that God wants me to be?

Or known him

"The seeing of Christ takes place when the immediate consciousness of the glory of Christ has dawned upon us, so that the eye of our soul beholds Him as He is in the totality of His nature; the knowing of Him when by means of inquiring consideration the right understanding of Him has come to us, so that we are clearly conscious not only of His nature, but also of His relation to us. Meyer's NT Commentary

To know God is to know Jesus. Jesus is the only way to a personal knowledge of God, "***I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through Me***" (John 14:6). This knowing is not only a head knowledge but a heart knowledge of saving faith in Jesus. To know God is to know His Holy Spirit.

John 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

John 15:27 “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.”

1 Peter 1:5-7 For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Knowing Him comes with a relationship. Our relationship grows with Him through personal experience. Difficult times can bring us closer to Him. Jesus is the Reconciler Who brings us back to Himself. He forgives and revives our soul. The Lord desires that we walk with Him daily.

Psalm 119:40 Behold, I long for Your precepts; revive me through Your righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

How can we know our Lord more?

Spending time in prayer and reading God’s Word - we hear this over and over. It seems simple yet it’s the very thing we fight in our flesh. In prayer, are we listening for His response by keeping our eyes open to see Him reveal Himself by what He does and says in His Word? Are we waiting and aware of the work He is doing in our life? Whether we read His Word on our own, in Bible Study or in Church, pray and ask God to help you understand His Word. God’s Word, like milk, will produce healthy growth. We should not remain spiritual infants. Healthy believers move forward towards maturity. It is important that we “*grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior*” for His honor and glory! How much we grow...is up to us!

1 Peter 2:2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.

2 Peter 3:18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

Our Lord desires all to come to Him and know Him better. He desires a loving Father/daughter relationship with you!