

# **PRICELESS SOUL WELL OF REVIVAL**

## **MINISTRY**

### **AS HE IS**

(All Scripture references from the NASB unless otherwise noted)

Sadly, the false teaching of eternal security (or once saved always saved) is currently the most prevalent teaching in regard to salvation and the security of the believer. In light of the prevalence of this false doctrine, one need not wonder why so many professing Christians do not believe that real Christians are to be “as He is.” Most do not believe that the “old man” WAS crucified with Christ and that the “body of sin” is destroyed in regard to true Christians, or that Christians are free FROM sin, and DO NOT continue in it (Rom.6:6-8, Gal. 5:24). This is perhaps the largest dividing line between the belief of conditional security compared to the belief of unconditional security (or once saved always saved). In other words, most do not believe that true Christians have no more to do with sin than a dead body has to do with the departed spirit (Rom.6:4; Jas. 2:26). The apostle John gives some insightful information on this subject in the book of First John. We will explore primarily this book in regard to Christian perfection giving references from other books as well:

1 John 1:1 What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life--

1 John 1:2 and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us--

1 John 1:3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.

1 John 1:4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.

1 John 1:5 ¶ This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

In the opening verses, John states that, “what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands” (Jesus Christ), the Word of life is eternal life. Then, right after that, he says in verse 5: “This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you.” He also mentions in verse 1 that he is writing about: “What was from the beginning, what we have heard.” He states that Jesus Christ is the living Word in John 1:1: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” In light of the FACT that Jesus Christ is the Word of life, He is eternal life, and He is the living Word, John goes on to show that, keeping eternal life depends on whether what we have heard from the beginning remains in us or not:

1 John 2:24 As for you, let that abide (remain) in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides (remains) in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.

1 John 2:25 This is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.

John’s implication here is, very clearly, to whoever will see it, that IF what we heard from the beginning does not remain in us, we will not remain in the Father or the Son, and we will not receive the promise of eternal life, hence, the use of the conditional word “IF”. The conditional word “IF” means: On the supposition or condition that... In other words, IF we do not meet the conditions

we will not get the promise. This is a very clear scriptural principle throughout the Bible. There is NOT ONE unconditional covenant or promise found anywhere in Scripture. Once anyone comes to grip with this truth, no eternal security is possible, UNLESS God's conditions are met.

Furthermore, we must HAVE the Son to have eternal life:

1 John 5:11 And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

Notice here that John says, "He who HAS the Son, NOT, "he who HAD the Son" HAS the life. Also, he says that, " he who DOES NOT HAVE", NOT, " he who NEVER HAD" the Son does not have the life. Obviously, we must have a present tense possession of the Son in order to keep eternal life.

We must understand that there are varying degrees of sin:

John 19:11 Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has {the} greater sin."

1 John 5:16 ¶ If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not {leading} to death, he shall ask and {God} will for him give life to those who commit sin not {leading} to death. There is a sin {leading} to death; I do not say that he should make request for this.

1 John 5:17 All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not {leading} to death.

There are sins that bring spiritual death, which range from unrighteous words, showing favoritism, and lustful thoughts, to sexual immorality, murder, hate, drunkenness, greed , and lying, etc. (see [All Sins Are Not The Same](#))

Also, compromise is crucifixion of conscience:

Compromise permeates the entire life. We readily see that it does not take “lifestyle sinning” to permeate the life, but a little leaven leavens the whole lump:

Gal 5:7 ¶ You were running well; who hindered you from obeying the truth?

Gal 5:8 This persuasion {did} not {come} from Him who calls you.

Gal 5:9 A little leaven leavens the whole lump {of dough.}

We must remember what sin is:

Rom 14:23.....whatever is not from faith is sin.

James 4:17 Therefore, to one who knows {the} right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

We see that everything that does not come from faith is sin. Furthermore, knowing to do the right thing and not doing it, or willful sin, and mistakes are quite different. In the Old Testament we find sins of ignorance mentioned together with the necessary offering for such. They were not classed with willful transgressions, and were dealt with in another manner. In the same sense may we speak of the same now, though the expression, “sins of ignorance,” is not mentioned in the New Testament. We will always be liable and subject to mistakes, blunders and infirmities. We will do things ignorantly, which we will see afterwards, and for which we will be sorry. Yet these mistakes and blunders are not classed in the catalogue of death penalty sins as shown in [All Sins Are Not The Same](#). Again, in the O.T. there is mentioned unintentional sin (Num. 15:22), defiant sin (Num. 15:30), and detestable sin (2 Ki. 21:11). Willful and deliberate sin are mentioned in both the N.T. and the O.T. (Ps. 19:13; Heb. 10:26). However, many professing Christians use every excuse under the sun to denounce Christian perfection and holiness, which are

really one and the same! Notice the all important truth that John gives us about why he is writing and in regard to IF we sin:

1 John 2:1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

1 John 2:2 and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for {those of} the whole world.

We see very clearly, that John is saying IF we sin NOT WHEN we sin. He is not planning on sinning and he is not planning on anyone who reads his writings to sin! In fact, he says he is writing SO THAT you may NOT sin! Again, the word is IF not WHEN! Every true Christian is walking in a state of perfection UNLESS and UNTIL they sin. What could the Advocate possibly be for if not for the backslider? Many teach that sin is part of the Christian life. This statement is as far from true as the lake of fire is from heaven! Again, if a Christian commits a death penalty sin, they come under the death penalty and are obviously no longer Christian UNLESS and UNTIL they repent.

*As He Himself is in the Light:*

We see in 1 John 1:5, the first part of “the message we have heard from Him and announce to you” is; that God is Light and IN Him there is NO darkness at ALL, and in verse 7, that “we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light.” We also see one way that we can identify ourselves and other people as Christian or non-Christian:

1 John 1:5 ¶ This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.

1 John 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and {yet} walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

1 John 1:7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all (every) sin.

Clearly, everyone who walks in the darkness is NOT Christian! As God is Light and IN Him there is No darkness at ALL, the only way we are IN God is if we walk in the Light AS HE HIMSELF is in the Light. Again, we see the conditional word "IF." Only IF we walk in the Light AS HE HIMSELF is in the Light, then do we have fellowship with God and then do we have all our sins cleansed, but NOT until. Further, the Greek word for cleansed in verse 7 is the same Greek word used for clean and cleansed when Jesus healed the lepers:

Matt 8:2 And a leper came to Him and bowed down before Him, and said, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean."

Matt 8:3 Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

So, how much leprosy was left after he was cleansed? If we were to take a garment that was stained with ink and put it through a process that would remove ALL ink, how much ink would be left? The answer is obvious. There would be NO ink left. If there is no arrogance in saying that there is no ink left in a garment after it has gone through an ink removal process, where would be the arrogance in a testimony that someone has NO sin in their life because the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from ALL sin as we walk in the Light AS HE HIMSELF is in the light? This is how powerful the blood of Jesus really is! However, it seems that professing Christians are constantly using verse 8 of 1

John to denounce Christian perfection and holiness by saying that we must sin all the time, and no one is totally free from sin:

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

Perhaps the quotation we more commonly hear is as follows: "He that says he lives and does not sin is a liar and the truth is not in him." We must see, in light of verse 6,7 which we have covered, without even looking at other scriptures penned by John or anyone else in the New Testament, that here he is talking about self righteous people that are saying they have no sin, therefore they have no reason to be cleansed from sin as the previous verse 7 says! All Christians depend on the blood of Christ for salvation. John is clearly talking here about a self-righteous sinner, who thinks he is good enough and has no sin, consequently he has no need of the cleansing blood. This is the only way by reason, logic and common sense that we can balance verse 8 with verse 6,7, if we go no farther than just these three verses! Let the professing Christian that is hiding behind the Bible to continue in sin come clean and walk in the light AS HE HIMSELF is in the light or perish everlastingly! Purity and sin cannot mix together! One or the other must go!

We have absolute perfection because the blood of Jesus is perfect blood. Further, for another example where the same Greek word for cleanse is used as in 1 Jn. 1:7 and Mt. 8:2,3 look at:

Heb. 9:13 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean.

Heb. 9:14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! (NIV)

Jesus is unblemished and Christians are unblemished having their consciences cleansed from acts that lead to death as we walk in the Light AS HE HIMSELF is in the Light! This is serving the living God! Hallelujah for the perfect unblemished blood of Christ! The same power that raised Christ from the dead (the glory of the Father) makes people into new creatures in a moments time so that we can walk in newness of life, completely free FROM sin, and we stay new creatures UNLESS and UNTIL we sin (Rom. 6:4-8; 2 Cor. 5:17; 1 Pet. 2:24; 1 Jn.2:1,2).

We see this further in Col. 1:21-23, that we are holy, without blemish, and free from accusation ONLY IF we continue in the faith:

Col. 1:21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.

Col. 1:22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation--

Col. 1:23 IF you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. (NIV)

If we are not continuing in the faith, established and firm, not moved away from the hope held out in the gospel, then we are NOT holy, NOT without blemish, and NOT free from accusation, hence the conditional word IF again! The



apostle Paul then says, "This is the gospel....." Any other gospel is heresy and cannot save (Gal. 1:6-10; 1 Cor. 15:1,2)!

Those who belong to Christ **HAVE CRUCIFIED** the flesh with it's passions and lusts:

Gal 5:24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Did Jesus die when He was crucified? Yes, and likewise then all true Christians have crucified the flesh! It is dead, no more to live again UNLESS we give in to temptation! Dear reader, have you ever seen a dead corpse commit adultery? Have you ever seen a dead corpse commit murder? Have you ever heard of a dead corpse lusting? We could go on with this! (See [Who Is Your Master](#)) And there is no excuse for giving in to temptation and committing willful sin. God provides the way of escape SO THAT we can endure:

1 Cor 10:12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall.

1 Cor 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

1 Cor 10:14 ¶ Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Furthermore, the writer of Hebrews says that we are in a war **AGAINST** sin not WITH sin; and if we have to, we are to shed our blood in striving against it:

Heb 12:4 You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin.

It is only **IF** we yield to the temptation that the temptation becomes sin and the sin brings spiritual death. **THEN** we need an Advocate. Also notice that it is only the one who **ENDURES TEMPTATION**, and has been approved that receives the crown of life, which **ALL** Christians receive. No crown, no heaven:

James 1:12 ¶ Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial (or endures temptation) ; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which {the Lord} has promised to those who love Him.

James 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

James 1:14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

James 1:15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

James 1:16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

James says to believers, "Do not be deceived!" When sin is accomplished it brings forth death. Again, we are not to be deceived about this! And some of the sins that bring spiritual death goes no farther than entertaining thoughts in the mind, if it is set on the flesh. Paul says that the mind set on the flesh is death and everyone who has their mind set on the flesh does not have the Spirit of God, therefore does not belong to Christ:

Rom 8:5 For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

Rom 8:6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,

Rom 8:7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able {to do so,}

Rom 8:8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Rom 8:9 ¶ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

Listen to Jesus the radical as He brings the mind set of entertaining lustful thoughts equivalent to the act of committing adultery and says that it is better for anyone to pluck out their eye if they have to rather than go to hell for this heinous sin:

Matt 5:27 ¶ "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY';

Matt 5:28 but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Matt 5:29 "If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

James says that all one has to do is to DESIRE or WISH to be a friend of the world and he becomes an enemy of God:

James 4:4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Jesus said that all we have to do is WISH to save our life here and we will lose it in eternity:

Mark 8:34 ¶ And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

Mark 8:35 "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

Mark 8:36 "For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?

Mark 8:37 "For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Mark 8:38 "For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

Lot's wife perished for one glance back at the old life:

Luke 17:32 "Remember Lot's wife.

Luke 17:33 "Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses {his life} will preserve it.

Again, there is no excuse for willful sin. When Christians sin they become the enemies of God. All the enemies of God can expect is terrifying judgment and to be consumed by the fire:

Heb 10:26 ¶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

Heb 10:27 but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES (or enemies of God).

Listen to the apostle Peter as he describes people that can never cease from sin as accursed children who have forsaken the right way:

2 Pet 2:14 having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children;

2 Pet 2:15 forsaking the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the {son} of Beor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

Let every professing Christian that is continuing in sin understand that they are convicted as accursed children, they have forsaken the right way! Jesus is the way (Jn. 14:6). His way is narrow (Mt. 7:14). Those described above have forsaken the narrow way and are back on the highway to hell (Mt. 7:13).

Listen to the apostle Peter, in stark contrast to the above, as he describes the true Christian as one who **HAS** ceased from sin:

1 Pet 4:1 Therefore, since Christ has suffered (death) in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered (death) in the flesh has ceased from sin,

1 Pet 4:2 so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God.

Dear reader, there is clearly no way of getting around this, without making some kind of excuse or explaining it away! If you are sinning and walking in the darkness, you are not walking AS HE HIMSELF is in the Light and the blood of Jesus His Son is NOT cleansing you from all sin! If this describes you, you must repent or perish!

***In the same manner AS HE WALKED:***

This is another way of saying we “walk in the light as He Himself is in the light.” We also see that one of the ways we know that we know Christ, (and we can know if others do as well), is if we obey His commands. By keeping His Word the love of God has been perfected in us. One of the ways we know that we are IN Him is that we walk in the same manner AS HE WALKED:

1 John 2:3 ¶ By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments.

1 John 2:4 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;

1 John 2:5 but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him:

1 John 2:6 the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

The apostle Peter echoes this. Jesus, who committed NO sin, left us an example to follow in His steps:

1 Pet 2:21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

1 Pet 2:22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;

1 Pet 2:23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting {Himself} to Him who judges righteously;

1 Pet 2:24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

The writer of Hebrews reaffirms the fact that Jesus was sinless:

Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as {we are, yet} without sin.

We see that confession of Jesus as Lord must be accompanied by turning away from all wickedness:

2 Tim 2:19 Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Everyone who names the name of the Lord is to abstain from wickedness."

We conclude that AS HE WALKED was without sin and this is how Christians must walk in order to stay Christians as 1 Jn. 2:5 above says: "By this we know that we are in Him (v.5)."

*Purifies himself just AS HE IS PURE*

1 John 3

3 Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. (NIV)

Who does the purifying here? Christians are to keep themselves pure by not sharing in the sins of others:

1 Timothy 5:22 Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, and do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure. (NIV)

Pure and undefiled religion includes keeping ONESELF unstained by the world:

James 1:27 Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of {our} God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, {and} to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The pure in heart are the only ones who will SEE God:

Matt 5:8 ¶ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Christians are to come out and be separate and touch nothing unclean, THEN God will welcome them, and not before! We CLEANSE OURSELVES from every defilement of body and spirit! We MAKE HOLINESS PERFECT in the FEAR of God!:

2 Cor 6:17 Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you,

2 Cor 6:18 and I will be your father, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.'

2 Cor 7:1 Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and of spirit, making holiness perfect in the fear of God. (NRSV)

(See [The Central Idea Of Christianity](#))

Works salvation? If any of this is works salvation, (as it is commonly referred to by those who denounce Christian perfection), then all of these New Testament teachers were legalists! No! But there are New Testament conditions and requirements to make heaven. This is Bible and has NEVER been successfully refuted by any of the doctrines or philosophies of men and never will be! The Word of God is forever settled in the heavens!

***Righteous, just AS HE IS RIGHTEOUS***



In addition to the FACT that whoever practices righteousness after initial salvation is righteous just **AS HE IS** righteous (no. 3 below), we see six other plain gospel facts in 1 Jn. 3:5-10:

1 John 3

5 But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.

6 No-one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No-one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

7 Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

8 He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

9 No-one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.

10 This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not a child of God; nor is anyone who does not love his brother. (NIV)

#### 7 Plain Gospel Facts from 1 Jn. 3:5-10:

1. He appeared to take away our sins (1 John 3:5; Titus 2:12).

2. One can not be in Christ and continue to sin (1 John 3:5-6; 2 Cor. 5:17).

Further, the words “seen” and “knows” are in the Greek perfect tense which refers to action that occurred in the past with its results continuing to the present moment. Therefore, John says that no one who is living in sin has seen (and continues to see) Him, nor has he known (and continues to know) Him.

3. Man can be as righteous as Christ in this life, and we are not to be deceived about this (1 John 3:7; 1 John 4:17; Titus 2:12).

Christians are the righteousness of God IN Christ because we are IN Him who knew NO sin. Therefore, we are the righteousness of God when we are IN Christ and know NO sin:

2 Cor 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin {to be} sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

He became for us wisdom, RIGHTEOUSNESS, sanctification and redemption:

1 Cor 1:30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption.

Notice again the order here: 1 wisdom, 2 righteousness, 3 sanctification, and 4 redemption. Righteousness and sanctification come BEFORE redemption. Notice that for EVERY Christian, righteousness is cancelled out by sin which brings spiritual death:

Rom 6:16 Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone {as} slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in (or to) death, or of obedience resulting in (or to) righteousness?

Man cannot serve two masters (Mt. 6:22-24). (See [Who Is Your Master](#))

This brings us to Gospel Fact no. 4.:

4. Everyone who sins is a slave of sin and of the devil, NO exceptions (Jn. 8:34; 2 Pet. 2:19; 1 John 3:8; John 8:44).
5. Christ appeared to destroy the works of the devil, and sin is at the top of the list (1 John 3:8; Matthew 8:17; Acts 10:38; John 10:10).
6. One cannot sin as long as the Word of God remains in him (1 John 3:9; Romans 6:14-23; Romans 8:1-13).
7. All people are not children of God, and we can KNOW who is a child of the devil and who is a child of God by their actions (1 John 3:10).

**AS HE IS, so also are we in this world**

1 John 4:17 By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world.

Jesus said of His, we are not of the world EVEN as He is not of the world:

John 17:16 "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Christians are in this world but are aliens. They are NOT of it:

1 Pet 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, ¶ To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout.....

Christians, as aliens and strangers, are to ABSTAIN from fleshly lusts:

1 Pet 2:11 ¶ Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

If anyone loves the world the love of the Father is NOT in him. The world and all its lusts is passing away, but only he who does the will of the Father will live forever:

1 John 2:15 ¶ Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

1 John 2:17 The world is passing away, and {also} its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

Jesus said, "He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters." Luke 11:23

Every person is either with Christ or with the world, and no one can be with both!

Whoever WISHES to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God! Lot's wife perished for one look back at the old life!:

James 4:4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

Luke 17:32 "Remember Lot's wife.

Luke 17:33 "Whoever seeks to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses {his life} will preserve it.

Jesus said that the enemy of our God had NOTHING in Him. How about you?:

John 14:30 "I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.

**From all of this we conclude:**

Dear reader, Paul asks a question that still rings aloud today and that all MUST answer. It's more current than the front page of the news paper. It's my prayer that you'll answer this question before it's too late:

2 Cor 13:5 Test yourselves {to see} if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you--unless indeed you fail the test?

We must test ourselves to see if we are:

Walking in the Light AS HE HIMSELF is in the light (1 Jn. 1:6,7)

Walking in the same manner AS HE WALKED (1 Jn.2:3-6)

Purifying ourselves AS HE IS PURE (1 Jn. 3:2,3)

Practicing righteousness, making us righteous AS HE IS RIGHTEOUS (1 Jn. 3:7-10)

Living AS HE IS in this world (1 Jn. 4:17)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. 2 Cor 13:14

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