



**That You May Know Series, Part 3: Know Him, Obey Him, Love Him and Others, I John 2:3-11**

*Kent Vincent ~ January 6, 2019*

**I. Growing Obedience as Assurance- I John 2:3-6**

**Vs 3** *And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments.*

*“keep” means to guard like a precious treasure. I become secure in our salvation as I obey through the desire of my heart.*

**Vs 4** *On the other hand... Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,*

*Hypocrisy! His walk does not match his talk.*

**Vs 5** *but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:*

*“love of God” = my love for God.*

*Paraphrase: ‘he who, as a pattern of life, guards the precious treasure of His commands truly loves God. By that willing obedience, one may KNOW he is saved.’*

**Vs 6** *whoever says he abides in Him ought to walk in the same way in which He walked.*

*‘abides’ = remain, stay. Idea is consistency or steadfastness in obedience.*

*At salvation, we start to ‘be conformed to the image’ of Jesus. Romans 8.*

*This imitation runs throughout the Word: John 15:4-5; I Corinthians 11:1; Ephesians 5:1; I Peter 2:21.*

**II. Growing Love for Others as Assurance- I John 2:7-11**

**Vs 7** *Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard.*

*‘Beloved’ (Gr: Agapeo from agape: selfless, sacrificial and unconditional love)*

*An ‘old commandment’- John 13:34-35; Leviticus 19 and Matthew 22.*

**WARNING!**: Be careful to not mislead seekers.

**Vs 8** *At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.*

What is it, old or new? "Yes."

1. Christ gives a new example.

2. New to us, *because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.* After salvation, we grow more and more into His light.

**Vs 9** *Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness.*

Paraphrase: *'If I say I know and love God, but cannot stop hating others, I am really just a child of the devil.'*

**Vs 10** *Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling.*

**Vs 11** *But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.*

He who hates his brother:

- Is in darkness = he is spiritually dead;
- Walks or lives in darkness = he is a slave to sin;
- Does not know where he is going = he lacks a godly purpose for life; and,
- Is blind = he does not know where he is going ultimately.

**For Consideration:**

- As a Christ follower, what is the relationship of obedience and assurance of salvation?
- If in response to your explanation of your life as a Christian, an unbeliever says that biblical obedience sounds oppressive, how would you respond?
- Can you rightly love others without a right love for God?
- John says the command to love one another is both old and new. How so?