

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship
October 18, 2023 | "Paternity Test" | **1 John 3:4-10**

Five identifying markers for the Children of the Devil:

- 1) _____ and _____ (3:4-5)
- 2) _____ of _____ (3:6)
- 3) _____ of the _____ (3:7-8)
- 4) _____ of _____ (3:9)
- 5) Unrighteousness and _____ of brotherly love (3:10)

Five identifying markers for the Children of God:

- 1) _____ by _____ (3:4-5)
- 2) _____ in _____ (3:6)
- 3) _____ in _____ (3:7-8)
- 4) _____ of _____ (3:9)
- 5) Righteousness and _____ of brotherly love (3:10)

Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

1. What's the difference between "sin" and "lawlessness?" Why does John make a big deal in verse 4 about sin being lawlessness? What kinds of errors do you think he was addressing in the church?
2. Who appeared in order to take away sins (verse 5)? How did he take away sins? What does it mean that "in him there is no sin?" In what sense are those who are born of God sinless?
3. What does it mean to be a "child of God?" Is that a positive term for you? What are the privileges and responsibilities of being a "child of God?" How can we know that we are children of God and not children of the devil?
4. Where in your life have you seen righteousness increase? Where have you seen the practice of sin decrease?
5. Read John 8:31-59 and note any parallels with that passage and 1 John 3:4-10. Do you think that event (John 8:31-59) was etched in John's mind when he was writing 1 John 3:4-10? In John 8:36, Jesus said "if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." What freedom was Jesus talking about? Is there a similar freedom that John is writing about in 1 John?

Advanced Question: Interact with the following statement: "Imputed righteousness will inevitably produce empirical righteousness in the life of a believer." What is imputed righteousness? What is empirical righteousness? Which righteousness (Imputed or empirical) is John talking about in verse 7? What about the righteousness in verse 10?