

1 John 5

21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

Qualities of Authentic Faith

- 1. **Doctrinal test**: Knowing the truth about the Savior Jesus
- 2. **Moral test:** Living according to the way of Jesus
- 3. Relational test: Loving one another the way Jesus did

1 John 5

13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:18-21 Outline

- 1. What are idols?
- 2. Why keep ourselves from idols?
- 3. How do we keep ourselves from idols?

1 John 5:20 ...He is the true God and eternal life.

1. What are idols?

An idol is a false view of God that causes us to look to something else for real life.

1 John 5:19 ...the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

1 John 3:12 We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous.

1 John 2:16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires,

1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the payment for our sins.

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

1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

A. We must know Jesus is the one keeping us from idols

1 John 5:18 We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.

B. We must know our new identity in Christ

1 John 5:19 We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

B. We must know our new identity in Christ

1 John 3:1 See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God, and so we are.

C. We must understand why Christ came

1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding

C. We must understand why Christ came

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the payment for our sins.

D. We need to know him

1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true

1 John 1:19 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- 1) What idols have you turned to for love, purpose, comfort, or joy?
- 2) What false views of God have you had?
- 3) How has God shown you His love through Christ?