

1 JOHN

BELOVED



ABIDING & ABOUNDING
IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST

1 John 3

4 Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. **5** You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. **6** No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him.

1 John 3

7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. 8 Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3

9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. **10** By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

Categories for those who think they are in Christ:

1. Believe they are Christians but are **not** in Christ.
2. Believe they are Christians and they are in Christ.
3. Don't believe (aren't sure) they are Christians but they are in Christ.
4. Don't believe they are Christians and are not in Christ.

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

1 John 3:4-10 Outline

1. What does it mean to practice righteousness or practice sinning? (3 clues)
2. How does one get to the place of practicing sinning? (5 stages)
3. How does one get to the place of practicing righteousness? (6 steps)

1 John 3:6 No one who **abides** in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him.

Clue #1 – “abide”

1 John 3:7 Little children, let no one **deceive** you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

Clue #2 – “deceive”

1 John 3:9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's **seed** abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God.

Clue #3 – “seed”

1 John 2:20 But you have been
anointed by the Holy One, and you all
have knowledge

Clue #3 – “seed”

Psalm 1:1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; **2** but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Stages of Spiritual Decline

**forgetting to glancing to gazing to
moving to practicing**

Stages of Spiritual Decline

1 John 1:6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. **8** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Stages of Spiritual Decline

“When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, ‘Repent’, he willed the entire life of believers to be one of **repentance**” - Martin Luther

Six Steps of Repentance

1. Sight of Sin
2. Sorrow of Sin
3. Confession of Sin
4. Shame for Sin
5. Hatred of Sin
6. Turning from Sin

Six Steps of Repentance