



Sermon Series: 1 John: Testing the Pulse of Your Faith Part 2

Speaker/ Date: Reuben Scheeringa, November 7, 2021

1 John 2:1-27

John said that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness. If I look at God, and there is no darkness in Him, but then I look at myself, and I see darkness, I need some help. I need an advocate. Jesus is the only one who can advocate for us, and he wants to. **1 John 2:1-2**

We have the Righteous one in our corner, if we have put our faith and trust in Him. Our advocate gives us Eternal Life with him. **1 John 5:13**

Eternal life is not about being immortal, it is about knowing Jesus.

Which brings us to the big idea: When testing the pulse of our faith we need to know....

BIG IDEA: ETERNAL LIFE IS FOUND ONLY IN JESUS.

1. LIVE LIKE JESUS.

We Need to understand, **1 John 2:3-6** is not about perfection. It is about LOGIC. So when God commands you to do something and you ignore it or go against it, John can only conclude one thing: You don't believe that God is love. And therefore you don't know him. For if you believed that God is love, then you would believe that all his commandments were the very best thing for you. And you would follow them. When you turn away from the commandments of God, you say in effect, a loving God wouldn't command me to do that. And so our disobedience displays our lack of trust in the love God has for us. And it shows that we do not know God.

Again, let me make this clear, this is not about perfection, but about our trust in God and his desires for us.

2. LOVE LIKE JESUS.

John puts forth a test in **1 John 2:9-11**. He applies the test of the love commandment in two cases: a person who loves and a person who hates. John doesn't seem to recognize any middle ground.

The application of the test of love in 2:9–11 is basically the same as the application of the test of walking in the light in 1:6–7 and the application of the test of obeying God's commandments in 2:4–5.

He who loves his brother abides in the light. But he who 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.

Hate is the evidence of blindness to the light of God.
Love is the evidence that sight has been given to the blind.

3. KNOW TRUTH LIKE JESUS.

1 John 2:20-27

Truth has become a rare commodity in today's world. John spoke a little differently than we do today.

1 John 2:20-22 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth. Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ.

John does not hold back on the truth here. And what is the truth Jesus is the Christ, The messiah, Lord of Lords.

And here is the problem, there will be those that will lead you astray.

1 John 2:26 I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray.

This group of people had false teachers trying to sell false goods. Know, this is all about testing the pulse of your faith. For how can you be tested if you do not know it, if you do not believe it, if you will not live it?

If you are a follower of Christ, you have an anointing from the Holy One.

1 John 2:20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth.

You know truth, you know Jesus is the true Son of God, part of the Holy Trinity, our redeemer, and in him, by him and through him we can have eternal life.

Discussion Questions:

- What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?
- What does it mean that eternal life isn't about being immortal, that it is about Jesus? Why is this an important concept to grasp?
- How can you help people (and yourself) avoid the temptation to love Jesus because He gives eternal life rather than loving Him first and foremost because He is God?
- What are some examples of Jesus's love in action that are the most impressive to you, and why do those particular ones matter so much to you?
- What are some examples of Jesus's love in action that you have seen fellow Christians display?
- How can you explain the truth of God in a world that wants to leave truth up for interpretation?
- How can you help guard against false truth trying to take hold inside a church?