

# MESSAGE

Occasion : Evening Worship  
Date : July 17, 2016

TITLE : PROOFS OF LIFE  
Text/s :

1 Jn 2:3

3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

2 Cor 13:5-6

5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?

6 But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates.

KJV

Bible Reading :

2 Cor 6:3-10

3 Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:

4 But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,

5 In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings;

6 By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned,

7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

8 By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true;

9 As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed;

10 As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

KJV

Song/s :

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## INTRODUCTION

The vocabulary used by the Apostle John in his gospels, his epistles and the book of Revelation is very distinct. The verb “know” for example occurs more in John than any other gospel and more in 1 John than in any other epistle. His emphasis is that the Christian life is based and marked by knowledge.

Let us see the parameters by which we know or test the genuineness of our knowledge of Christ as Saviour.

1 Cor 10:32-33

32 Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:

33 Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

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1 Tim 3:7

7 Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

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1 Thess 4:12

12 That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and that ye may have lack of nothing.

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Col 4:5

5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

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#### A) If we believe in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ

I Jn 5:13

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

John 1:12

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

John 3:18

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

Acts 4:12

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

#### B) If we keep His commandments

I Jn 2:3

3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

Luke 6:46

46 And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

John 14:15

15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Matt 28:20

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

John 14:21-24

21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

John 15:10

10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

John 15:14

14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

1Thes 4:1-2

1 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

Heb 5:9

9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

I Jn 3:22

22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

I Jn 5:3

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

If we keep the commandments of God, loving him with all our heart, and our neighbour as ourselves, we have the fullest proof that we have the true saving knowledge of God and his Christ. The Gnostics pretended to much knowledge, but their knowledge left them in possession of all their bad passions and unholy habits; they, therefore, gave no proof that they had known either God or his Son Jesus; nor is any man properly acquainted with God, who is still under the power of his sins.

### C) If we live righteously

I Jn 2:29

29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.

Jer 13:23

23 Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.

Matt 7:16-18

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

Titus 2:12-14

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

I Jn 3:7

7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

I Jn 3:10

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

Righteousness -

1343 dikaiosune-

1) in a broad sense: state of him who is as he ought to be, righteousness, the condition acceptable to God

a) the doctrine concerning the way in which man may attain a state approved of God

b) integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking feeling, and acting

2) in a narrower sense, justice or the virtue which gives each his due

God is righteous, therefore the source of righteousness: when a man doeth righteousness, we know that he has acquired by new birth that righteousness which he had not by nature. We argue from his doing righteousness to his being born of God. The error of Pelagians is to conclude that doing righteousness is a condition of becoming a child of God' (Alford). Compare <Luke 7:47,50>: her much love evinced that her sins were already forgiven; not, were the condition of her sins being forgiven.

#### D) If we manifest real and sincere love for Christian brethren

I Jn 3:14

14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

John 13:35

35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

John 15:12

12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Gal 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,  
23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Col 1:4

4 Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints,

1Thes 4:9

9 But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.

Heb 13:1

1 Let brotherly love continue.

1 Pet 1:22

22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

I Jn 2:10

10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

2 Pet 1:7-10

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

[Because we love the brethren]-- the ground, not of passing over out of death into life, but of our knowing that we have. Love is the evidence of our justification and regeneration, not the cause.

Let each go to his own heart: if he find there love to the brethren, let him feel assured he has passed from death unto life. Let him not mind that his glory is only hidden: when the Lord shall come he shall appear in glory. He has vital energy, but it is still winter: the root has vigour, but the branches are dry: within there is vigorous marrow, within are leaves, within fruits; but they must wait for summer' (Augustine).

#### E) If we manifest the presence of a guiding, purifying Holy Spirit in our lives

I Jn 3:24

24 And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

Rom 8:9-17

9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

I Jn 4:13

13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

#### F) If we keep (guard) and honor God's Word

I Jn 2:5

5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

Keepeth 5083 tereo - to attend to carefully, to take care of

a) to guard

b) metaphorically, to keep, one in the state in which he is

c) to observe , hold fast

d) to reserve: to undergo something

1 John 2:5

5 But he who keeps (treasures) His Word [who bears in mind His precepts, who observes His message in its entirety], truly in him has the love of and for God been perfected (completed, reached maturity). By this we may perceive (know, recognize, and be sure) that we are in Him:

AMP

Ps 119:97-105

97 O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.

100 I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.

101 I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

102 I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.

103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

104 Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

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Josh 1:8

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

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Ps 119:2

2 Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart.

Luke 11:28

28 But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

John 14:21

21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

**G) If there is consistence in our hearts and in our deeds**

1 John 3:18-21

18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.

20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

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James 2:15-18

15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,

16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

KJV

Eph 4:1-3

1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

KJV