



PO BOX 943, SUPERIOR MT 59872  
Gathering at 502 Pike Street

WEEKLY WRAP-UP

**TITLE: A Confident Christian: A Confidence Building Journey in 1<sup>st</sup> John**

**TEXT: 1 John 3:1-9**

**DATE: 25 February 2024**

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**OPENING COMMENTS:**

The first statement comes in the form of a question, which is the single most important question of your life: ***"Are You a Christian?"***

The second statement simply addresses the fact you will never become a "Confident Christian," without first becoming a Christian, referenced in.....

***2 Corinthians 5:17:***

***Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.***

The third statement refers back to something Jesus said in ***John 10:10*** and not only does it speak of a new Christ-like life but of a significantly ever-growing confident life in Christ; He is the source!

Jesus stated within His Good Shepherd discourse of (***John 10:1-21***)

***John 10:10:***

***The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy, I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.***

The fourth statement points us past the basic-eternal need of salvation to that of living an abundant-confident-salvation life; here and now, which is made clear to His disciples in

***Matthew 5:14-16:***

***<sup>14</sup> Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.***

***<sup>15</sup> Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.***

***<sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.***

The fifth statement presents an example of a born-again child of God who confidently shared/ (and shares} the light of Jesus Christ; of course we mean John, the apostle of Jesus:

John writes and lights up the way of salvation in ***John 20:31:***

***<sup>31</sup> But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name.***

The sixth statement records Johns' continuing excitement and light bearing commitment in this dark world with the opening of his 1st epistle in

**1 John 1:1-4:**

***1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;***

***2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)***

***3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.***

***4 And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.***

The final statement brings us back to **1 John 3:1-9** where we will continue this confidence building study with a focus on **verse 6**. Let's read and look at this verse, but first ...

*"Let's Pray Together"*

*Father, we come to praise You today. Jesus, we come to thank you today. Holy Spirit we come to express our love to you today. And, Lord God, we come to tell you that we need you today. Amen.*

### **A Note of Transition:**

Coming to our biblical passage for today, 1 John 3:1-9, concludes with 3 pts:

**1st: Relationship Secured: 1 John. 3:1-2:**

**2nd: Fellowship Stressed: 1 John. 3:3-5:**

AND

**3rd: Abiding Stated: 1 John 3: 6-9:**

**1 John 3:6:**

***6 Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him.***

1. **Remember**, 1 John was written to believers, children of God, with an emphasis on fellowship!

2. **Realize**, the issue here is not whether you are saved or not; the issue is whether you are abiding in Christ, or not.

3. **Re-visit** the illustration: "Two Natures" the left arm representing the "old nature-the flesh" and the right arm representing the "new nature" received when Jesus Christ becomes our Saviour.

Several points here:

- **Old nature** dead when saved but nowhere in the Bible does it say that your old nature leaves you at salvation!
- At salvation, you receive a **new nature** in Jesus Christ which is contrary and always in opposition to that old nature that is still present in your life.
- Paul makes a clear reference to these two natures in his life and the battle that seems to never end while still here on this earth until Jesus returns:

**Romans 7:14-25:**

*14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.*

*15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.*

*16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.*

*17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.*

*18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

*19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.*

*20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.*

*21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.*

*22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:*

*23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.*

*24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?*

*25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.*

- Paul makes another clear reference to these two natures within every Christian and the battle that seems to never end while still here on this earth until Jesus returns:

**in Galatians 5:16-17:**

*16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*

*(Notice the clear reference to the two distinctly opposite natures ... look ...)*

*17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

**4. Return to 1 John 3:6: Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him.**

Several points here:

- Cuczza: People say, see ... if you're abiding in Him, you don't sin ... and if you sin, you're not saved
- Cuczza: Hold everything, first, abiding in Him is different than being saved ... being saved is one thing, abiding in Him is the privilege of His children, you can't abide in Him unless you're saved
- Cuczza: ... and remember, this book was written to saved people ... the issue is NOT whether you're saved or not ... the issue is whether you're abiding in Christ or not!

**5. Relate personally to the teaching here in this verse; John is speaking about our practical-daily walk as a believer, he is not speaking of our positional-eternal relationship!**

As we, who are in Christ, abide in Him, we don't sin, because while we walk in the Spirit, we don't fulfill the lusts of the flesh (Galatians 5:16). You can't walk in the flesh and walk in the Spirit at same time!

And, by the way, sin is never the result of walking in the Holy Spirit of God, but sin will always be the result of walking in the flesh because the old nature can never produce works of holy righteousness!

Do you mean I can't be spiritually abiding in the Spirit while I'm watching a new porn video or while I'm sharing secret prayer requests, also seen as GOSSIPING?

Look again: **1 John 1:5-9:**

***<sup>5</sup> This then is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.***

***<sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:***

***<sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.***

***<sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.***

***<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

John is saying that if you are a child of God, choose to obediently walk with Him, abide with Him and you will get to enjoy the kind of personal fellowship with Him and get better acquainted!

See **Galatians 5:24-25:**

***<sup>24</sup> And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.***

***<sup>25</sup> If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.***

**1 John 3:6:**

***<sup>6</sup> Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him.***

### **CONCLUSION**

Right this very moment you are either:

- A natural man: lost in need of saving
- A carнал Christian living like a lost man
- A spiritual Christian abiding in Jesus

Find and Read: **1 Corinthians 2:14 - 3:3:**

“A Billfold-Gospel Illustration”

### **INVITATION**

**Romans 10:13:**

***For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.***

**John 6:47:**

***Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.***