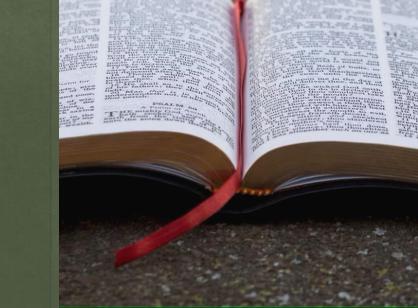
DISTINGUISHING the DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRUE CHRISTIANS and PROFESSING CHRISTIANS



♦I John 3:1-11



INTRODUCTION and REVIEW

♦ 1 John 3:1-3 states: Our identity as children of God (born-ones) **Our future glorification**, which results in **⊘Our present purpose: ♦ To be separated UNTO Christ: ♦**To our position in Christ, and **♦**To His will for our daily lives

INTRODUCTION and REVIEW

Sin (acting contrary to what God expects from us) disrupts our ability to ABIDE (feel at ease) in our present purpose

♦I John 3:5

Explains God's provision of protection from the interruption of sin

INTRODUCTION

distinguishing characteristics between those who are **♦** Those who only profess to be related to Christ

The Difference Between (Habitually) Practicing Sin and NOT (Habitually) Practicing Sin (I Jn 3:6)

The abiding believer (the one feeling at ease in his position in Christ) does not practice sin (keep on sinning) because:

♦ He feels at ease in God's Word and God's Word feels at ease in him - I Jn 2:14, 24

♦ He keeps "short accounts" of any sin he may do - I Jn 1:9

♦ He does not want to bring "ill-repute" against the Father, by Satan - I Jn 2:1, cf Rev 12:10

The Difference Between (Habitually) Practicing Sin and **NOT (Habitually) Practicing Sin (I Jn 3:6)** The one who practices sin habitually Has not seen Christ with understanding (in his mind) - cf Jn 20:5-8 Has not experientially known Christ (by the new birth) - cf Jn 14: 20

The Difference Between the SOURCE of the Practice of the Righteousness and the Practice of Sin (I Jn 3:7-8)

♦ The one practicing THE righteousness is righteous as Christ is righteous (vs 7) ♦ Feeling at ease in loving the brethren – cf 2:6, 10, 19 The act of righteousness demonstrates the state of being righteous

The Difference Between the SOURCE of the Practice of the Righteousness and the Practice of Sin (I Jn 3:7-8)

The one practicing sin is of the Deceiver (as to source) – vs 8, cf Jn 8:44

The Deceiver has been sinning since his fall
 Isa 14, Ezek 28

The Son of God was manifested to undo the works of the Deceiver – cf Gen 3:15. Jn 3:16

The Reason Why the NT Grace-Believer Cannot Habitually Sin (1 Jn 3:9)

Secause God's seed (God's Life and nature) feels at ease in the believer ♦ We belong to the Father, who birthed us ♦ He WILL accomplish in us what He has determined **♦ Cf Heb 12:6-8, I Cor 11:31-32**

The Test that Distinguishes Gods Children (1 Jn 3:10)

The practice of righteousness
Satan's "born-ones"
When Satan tempted Eve and Adam to sin, he became their spiritual father of death

CONCLUSION

 The believer's Father has fathered us unto ETERNAL LIFE (out from spiritual death). Therefore Remember:
 We are <u>HIS born-ones</u>

Our future glorification will cause us to be like our Savior in His glorified humanity

Our purpose today is to be purified (separated) unto our position in Christ and His revealed will for our lives (I Jn 3:11)