

# **BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

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- A. TEXT: *"If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness we lie, and do not the truth, but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin."* I John 1:6,7.
- B. SETTING:
1. John is writing about half a century after the beginning of the church.
  2. Enough time had passed that many problems had arisen.
  3. Problems of Christian living....Real Christian Living.
- C. NEED TO BE HONEST WITH SELF!
1. Are we really what we say we are?
  2. Sometimes it is easier to deceive our self than to deceive others.
  3. John gives several **"self tests"** that we should take.
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## **FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD**

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- A. *"If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness we lie, and do not the truth;"* v. 6.
1. What does "Fellowship" mean?
    - a. Communion, sharing in common.
    - b. **Denotes a partaker or partner.**
  2. **This requires agreement. Walking where God is. (Amos 3:3).**
- B. **GOD IS LIGHT. (v. 5).**
1. One cannot be in light and darkness at the same time.
  2. One deceives himself who claims fellowship with God...Light...yet walks in darkness or sin.
  3. One who claims fellowship with God, yet lives in sin.
    - a. Examples of the world today.
    - b. Example in Romans 1 and 2. Condemned others, yet practiced the same things.
- C. **"WE LIE, AND DO NOT THE TRUTH".**
1. Lie to self.
  2. To those around us.
  3. **We need to be HONEST with our self.**
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## **WALK IN LIGHT**

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- A. *"If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin."*
1. A very positive statement.
  2. To "walk in" is to "live in", the way we live our life.
- B. WHAT IS LIGHT?
1. "God is Light" v. 5
  2. His word is Light (Psalms 119:105).
- C. TO WALK IN LIGHT—Is To Walk In His Teaching (This is the point).
1. *"For the commandment is a lamp' and the law is light;"* (Prov. 6:23).
  2. Matt. 7:21.
  3. *"He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoso keepeth his word, in him verily hath the love of God been perfected."* (I John 2:4,5).
- D. **Be Honest With Your Self....Are You Walking In The Light?**
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## **ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN**

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- A. *"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.....If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."* (I John 1:8, 10).
1. Nowhere is "Self Honesty" more important than in dealing with our own sins.
  2. Many today try to deal with their sins in One of Two ways!
- B. SOME DENY THAT THEY HAVE SINNED.
1. Are in denial.
  2. Example: Lie become a little "white lie" is not really bad or sin.
  3. **Man rationalizes away his sin. (Excuses, justifies, and denies).**
- C. OTHERS DENY THAT THE ACTION IS SIN.
1. We don't call sin by its name anymore.
  2. "Times have changed".
  3. It is accepted today, and to call it sin is "old fashion".
  4. They Think: IF WE CAN DENY THAT IT IS A SIN, THEN WE ARE NOT SINNERS.
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## **IF WE CONFESS**

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### A. Recognize Our Sin.

1. Read Psalms 51.
2. Saw himself as he really was.

### B. TWO WAYS OF COVERING SIN.

1. The Wrong Way. *"He that covereth his transgressions shall not prosper;"* (Proverbs 28:13).
    - a. Examples: Adam & Eve hid behind the trees. (Gen. 3).
    - b. Saul blamed the people (I Sam. 15).
    - c. Aaron blamed the fire (Exodus 32).
    - d. Ananias and Sapphira simply lied.
  2. The Right Way. *"But whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall obtain mercy."* (Proverbs 28:13b).
    - a. *"If we confess our sins he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (I John 1:9).
    - b. We need to be Honest with ourselves because...**If we try to hid our Sins – We Perish...If We Confess our sins – God Forgives.**
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## **CONCLUSION**

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### A. DO YOU KNOW GOD?

1. *"But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily hath the love of God been perfected. Hereby we know that we are in him;"* (I John 2:5).
2. As John uses the term...we don't know God - if we don't obey Him.

### B. EXAMINE OUR SELF. *"Try your own selves, whether ye are in the faith; prove your own selves."* (II Cor. 13:5).

1. Paul is telling us to "be honest with our self".
2. No Excuses:
  - a. "I am doing the best I can", or "I will some day."
  - b. Don't hide behind someone else. Try to justify our sin by pointing out that we think someone else is a "bigger sinner".

### C. THE BLESSING OF WALKING - LIVING IN THE LIGHT!

1. *"The blood of Jesus His Son cleanseth us from all sin."* v. 7.
2. Nothing but the blood of Jesus can cleanse our sins. (Matt. 26:28; Rev. 1:5, 7).

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