

THE “PRACTICE” TEST

1 John 3:4-10

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Little children, let no one deceive you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil. 1 John 3:7-8

How can you tell the difference between the true and the false?

1. Look at the practice of one’s life concerning sin.

A. The false believer rebels against God.

Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness. 1 John 3:4

B. The false believer lives in sin.

And you know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin. No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him. 1 John 3:5-6

C. The false believer acts like his father the devil.

“You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father.” John 8:44

2. Look at the practice of one’s life concerning righteousness.

A. The true believer has been changed.

*Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.
2 Corinthians 5:17*

B. The true believer wants to please God.

1. There is still a struggle with the will.

2. There is still a struggle with the flesh.

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.
Galatians 5:16-17

3. Look at the practice of one's life concerning love.

By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother. 1 John 3:10

"This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you." John 15:12

... and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us. Romans 5:5

How did YOU do on the practice test?