

July 24, 2022

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

1 John 2:18-27

Doctrinal Test #1: Abiding in the Truth – Part 4

C. The Doctrinal Test – 2:18-27

1. True Christians Joyfully Abide in a Biblical Church (18-19)
2. True Christians Joyfully Abide in the Biblical Gospel (20-25)
 - a. The Anointing (20-21)
 - b. The Antichrist (22-23)
 - 1) False Christian (22-23a)
 - a) Confession – “Jesus is not the Christ!”

The Person of Jesus (Jn. 1:1, 14; 1 Jn. 1:1-3; Mt. 1:23; Jn. 8:21-24)

The Work of Jesus (1 Pet. 2:24; 3:18; 2 Cor. 5:21; Rom 3:25; 1 Jn. 2:1-2; 4:10; Heb 2:17)

b) Consequences

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2) True Christian (23b)

- a) Confession – “Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God the Father!” (Mt. 10:32f; 1 Jn. 4:2; 5:5; Rom. 10:9-13; Acts 2:36-40)

b) Consequences

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So What?

Discussion and Application:

1. Read **Luke 18:8**. What is the difference between finding people of faith and finding people of **the faith**? What will happen to the people who are not of “the faith”? (See Mt. 7:21-23; 25:41ff; Lk. 17:26ff)
2. Read **Luke 18:9-14**. How are these men an illustration of Luke 18:8 (one positive and one negative)? What did the two men believe about how they could be justified before God? What were they trusting in to be forgiven and have eternal life?
3. What is “**the faith**”? What are the essential elements of the gospel that people must believe to be saved?
4. Write down what the Bible says about the **Person of Jesus Christ** (include references). Who is He? What is it about Him that qualifies Him to be the only possible Savior?
5. Write down what the Bible says about the **Work of Jesus Christ** (include references). What did He do? What is it about His work that qualifies Him to be the only possible Savior?
6. Discuss what you know about several **major religions and/or cults**. What false beliefs do they have about the Person and Work of Jesus Christ? Discuss ways you can keep them on those two biblical issues when you have opportunity to talk to them.
7. What is it about the biblical Gospel that produces **joy** in those who believe? What is it about false gospels that inhibit joy? Are you joyful? If not, how might the joy of the Lord be restored in you?
8. What are the **four negative consequences** of not believing the truth about Jesus Christ? If Jesus came back today, do you know people (even religious people) that would match that description?
9. What does it mean to “**confess**” the Son? How does this relate to baptism and the Lord’s Supper? What are the implications for a true believer’s daily life? Are you characterized by confessing the Son publicly? If not, why not?
10. If a person denies Jesus as the Son of God, they lose out on the Father. If a person confesses Jesus as the Son of God, they get the Father too. Why is that? What other Bible passages support that?
11. What are the **four positive consequences** of believing the biblical truth about Jesus Christ? How might meditating on those things deepen your assurance and joy? Plan several times this week to meditate on the biblical gospel of Jesus Christ and its implications in your life. Sing songs of praise to God for so great a salvation.
12. Make a list of people you know who don’t currently have an assurance of salvation. Pray for them daily asking the Lord to send His Spirit to open their eyes to the truth of the Gospel. Make plans to get together with them and share the truth of the Gospel with them, how the Lord opened your eyes, and how you know for sure that you have eternal life.
13. **Memorize 1 John 2:22-23.**