

February 19, 2023

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown 1

John 3:10b-24

“Social Test #2: “We’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love” – Part 2

- I. Prologue [Introduction] – 1:1-4
- II. Tests of Genuine Fellowship: Cycle (Spiral) #1 – 1:5-2:27 – [Moral; Social; Doctrinal tests]
- III. **Tests of Genuine Fellowship: Cycle (Spiral) #2 – 2:28-4:6**
 - A. The Moral Test – 2:28-3:10 – Family Resemblance
 - B. **The Social Test – 3:10b-24 – Family Resemblance**
 - 1. **Obvious Family Resemblance (10b-12)**

2. _____ Family Resemblance (13-16)

a. _____ vs. _____ (13-14)

b. _____ vs. _____ (13-14)

c. _____ vs. _____ (15-16) [No Love vs Know Love]

So what?

Discussion & Application:

1. 1 John 3:10 says the difference between the children of God and the children of the devil is OBVIOUS in two areas: practice of righteousness and love. But worldly people often think they are righteous and loving. What obvious distinctions are there between the true Christian's righteousness and love and that of the person who is not a true Christian? List several distinctions.
2. Is John saying that practicing righteousness and love is what makes a person a Christian? If not, what is he saying? What proof do you have in this passage to support your answer?
3. Why does John transition from Cain murdering Abel to the world hating us? What is the connection? Why did Cain hate and murder Abel?
4. John tells his readers to stop being shocked that the world hates them. Why are we shocked when people hate us? What are we forgetting about people who don't know Jesus? (Eph. 2:1-3; Col. 1:13; Eph. 6:10ff)
5. Fill in the chart below with the differences between children of God and children of the devil:

Children of God	Children of the devil

6. People in the "world" (unsaved people) often say they love everyone, but God's Word says that people in the world hate true Christians. What does it mean by hate? (Look at Mal. 1:2-3; Rom. 9:13; Gen. 29:20, 30-31, and Luke 14:26 to see how love and hate are contrasted in the Bible).
7. What is the connection between hatred (anger) and murder (1 Jn. 3:15; Mt. 5:21f; Jn. 8:44)? What do these characteristics reveal about a person? (Titus 3:3; Gal. 5:19-21; Rom. 1:21-32)
8. Why do Christians love other Christians? Why does a habit pattern of loving other Christians bring assurance that we are truly born-again?
9. "Like Savior, like son." How did Jesus demonstrate His love for us? (v. 16) Most of us will not have to physically die for other believers. List several practical ways we can lay down our lives for other believers.
10. Do you have assurance of salvation? Is it obvious that you are a child of God by the way you love His children? What practical things have you done in the past 30 days to demonstrate that you prioritize sacrificially giving to other believers? How might you love fellow Christians before you go home today? Who specifically might you voluntarily, sacrificially, practically, and joyfully love this week?
11. **Memorize 1 John 3:11-18.**

[Answers to blanks: *Shocking; Hatred; Love; Life; Death; Kill Others; Die to Self*]