

1 Jn. 3:4-10

- I. Either our life is characterized by Christ, or it is characterized by sin, never both (4-9)
 - A. Either we serve Christ or we serve sin (4-6)
 - 1. Sin is against Christ, and Christ is against sin (4-5)
 - a Neg: Everyone sinning is practicing lawlessness/rebellion, by definition (4)
 - 1) Everyone sin is practicing lawlessness (4a-b)
 - a) Everyone doing sin (4a)
 - b) Is doing lawlessness (4b)
 - 2) And sin is lawlessness (4c)
 - b Pos: We know Christ is sinless and takes away sin (5)
 - 1) And we know (5a)
 - 2) Christ, Who is sinless, came to take away sin (5b-d)
 - a) Christ was revealed to take away sin (5b-c)
 - (1) That this One was revealed (5b)
 - (2) So that He would take away/do away with the sins (5c)
 - b) And sin is not in Him (5d)
 - 2. Therefore, being in Christ and living in sin are mutually exclusive (6)
 - a Pos: All those remaining in Him don't remain in sin (6a-b)
 - 1) Every one remaining in Him (6a)
 - 2) Is not sinning (6b)
 - b Neg: The one sinning has not experienced and known God 6c-e)
 - 1) Every one sinning (6c)
 - 2) This one has not experienced or known God (6d-e)
 - a) Has not seen/experienced Him (6d)
 - b) Neither has he known Him (6e)
 - B. Don't be deceived that sin is an option for the child of God (7-9)
 - 1. Children, let no one deceive you (7a)
 - 2. We show we are from God by no longer living in sin which Christ destroyed (7b-9)
 - a Everyone displays the character of their master in their lifestyle (7b-8c)
 - 1) Pos: The one practicing righteousness is showing God's character (7b-d)
 - a) The one doing righteousness (7b)
 - b) He is righteous, in conformity with God's righteousness (7c-d)
 - (1) This one is righteous (7c)
 - (2) Just as this One is righteous (7d)
 - 2) Neg: The one practicing sin is demonstrating the devil's character (8a-c)
 - a) The one practicing sin is from the devil (8a-b)
 - (1) The one doing the sin (8a)
 - (2) This one is from the devil (8b)
 - b) Reason: Because the devil is sinning from the beginning (8c)
 - b Christ came to destroy sin, therefore, His people don't live in sin (8d-9)

- 1) Christ was revealed to destroy the works of the devil (8d-e)
 - a) For this reason, the Son of God was revealed: (8d)
 - b) Purpose: So that He would destroy the works of the devil (8e)
- 2) Therefore: Those born from God do not live in sin (9)
 - a) Everyone who is born from God (9a)
 - b) Result: They do not live in sin because of God's life in them (9b-e)
 - (1) He does not practice sin because of God's new life (9b-c)
 - (a) Does not practice sin (9b)
 - (b) Reason: Because His seed remains in Him (9c)
 - (2) He is not able to sin because of the new birth (9d-e)
 - (a) And he is not able to sin (9d)
 - (b) Reason: Because he has been born from God (9e)

II. How to tell the children of God from the children of the devil: (10)

- A. The children of God and the children of the devil are revealed in this: (10a)
- B. Lack of righteousness and/or love shows lack of new birth (10b-e)
 1. The one who does not practice righteousness is not from God (10b-c)
 - a Everyone not practicing righteousness (10b)
 - b This one is not from God (10c)
 2. Neither is the one who does not love his brother (10d-e)
 - a And the one not loving his brother (10d)
 - b [This one is not from God] (10e)