

The Book Of 1 John
Chapter 2 Part 1
“How Do I Know If I Am Saved?”

[Go to 1 John Commentary Table of Contents](#)

Consider the degree of accuracy that is necessary for the space program to be able to launch one of their vehicles into space.

The Saturn Rocket has 5,600,000 different parts. If they had a 99.9 percent accuracy rate, then there would still be 5,600 defective parts.

Yet the Apollo 4 mission flew a “**Textbook**” mission with just 2 errors occurring in the entire mission.

If your car with it’s 13,000 parts had a 99.9 percent perfection rate, the first defective part would not wear out for 100 years.

And yet, If a 99.9 percent perfection rate was good enough, the IRS would lose 2 million tax returns this year.

If just 99.9% accuracy was necessary, then 22,000 checks would be deducted from the wrong bank accounts in the next hour.

12 newborn babies would be given to the wrong parents today,

20,000 incorrect drug prescriptions would be written this year...

So, I ask you, Is a 99.9 perfection good enough?

☞ **And yet,** If you or I had a 99.9% rate of perfection in regards to our walk with Jesus, we would consider that outstanding

Many years ago, when scientist were working on the “**Redstone rocket**”, Hans Gruene discovered after the explosion of a rocket at launch, that he had unknowingly made a mistake.

He took his findings to his Boss Werner Von Braun, the head of the Redstone Rocket project.

Expecting a firm reprimand or to be fired from the project, instead Hans received a reward.

Von Braun said that: *“Discovering what had caused it to go wrong was more important than what actually went wrong.”*

In chapter 1 of our study of the Book of 1 John, we discovered that the most important thing that the Creator of the Universe is interested in with us, is “**Our Fellowship with Him**”.

- ☞ **What He desires the most**, is a genuine, loving friendship with you.
- ☞ **When Jesus died for us**, He permanently removed every sin that we have done in the Past, the present, and the future.
- ☞ **So at the moment** that you asked Jesus to forgive all of your sins and to come and live inside of you, your fellowship with God began.
- ☞ **In order to keep that fellowship with God flowing**, we must daily confess our sins to Jesus, so that He can cleanse us daily and keep our fellowship alive.

1 John 1:6-7

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, (**Don't Confess our daily sins**) we lie and do not practice the truth.

7 But if we walk in the light (**Daily confessing our sins**) as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

As we begin chapter 2 of the Book of 1 John, we are continuing with this same theme:

1 John 2

1 My little children, these things I write to you, **so that you may not sin**. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

So, it is the will of God for your life and my life, that we have a 100 percent perfection rate when it comes to our sin.

- ☞ **It is the Lord's will** that we never sin again in our life after we give it to Jesus.

When Jesus healed the man who had been sick for 38 years He told him:

John 5:14

Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. **Sin no more**, lest a worse thing come upon you."

When Jesus forgave the woman caught in the act of adultery, He said to her:

John 8:11

She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; **go and sin no more**."

- ☞ **And all these things** that the Bible says to us, the examples it gives to us about the men and women of the Bible who also failed in their life, they were written so that we could learn from their mistakes and not sin ourselves.

One of the things that is missing from Jesus Church today, is the teaching about what an offense it is to our Holy God, when we sin.

- ☞ **If we want to understand** just **how much the Lord hates our sin**, all we have to do is look at that Cross.
- ☞ **Remember what Jesus suffered** on that Cross, to pay the price for our sin.
- ☞ **To remember that Isaiah said** that Jesus was so severely beaten, that he was not even recognizable as a man.

Isaiah 52:14

Many were amazed when they saw him—beaten and bloodied, so disfigured one would scarcely know he was a person.



That is how much God hates sin.

- ☞ **If we want to understand how much God Loves us**, all we have to do is look at that same Cross.
- ☞ **That God would allow His only Son** to hang there for me, to be beaten beyond recognition for someone like me, is absolutely amazing.
- ☞ **And yet, the reality is** that This was the only reason Jesus became a man and came to the earth, **was to Die, For you, to die, for me.**
- ☞ **When I see the Cross, I see the great hatred the Lord has for sin and also the Great love that He has for me.**

So, let us never excuse our sin, or diminish it's full penalty, let us hate sin as much as God hated it.

- ☞ **The reality is**, all of us who have come to know what Jesus has done for us on that Cross, and have been drawn to That Love, **we never again want to sin.**
- ☞ **And, We condemn ourselves** when we do.
- ☞ **We feel bad and unworthy**, like we should not be loved by God.

So,

1 John 2

1 My little children, these things I write to you, **so that you may not sin**. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

The literal interpretation of the Original Greek language here is: *“These things I write to you so that you may not sin, But When You Do...”*

- ☞ **In other words**, I hope that you do not sin, **but I know that you will**, so here is what you do, when you sin...
- ☞ *“We have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous.”*

“Advocate” in the Greek language is the word **“Parakletos”**, the same word that the words **Holy Spirit** were translated from. **Parakletos**” is the word we use to describe an **Intercessor**, someone who pleads on our behalf.

“If anyone sins, The Holy spirit pleads for us before the Father...”

- ⊞ **What does** the Holy Spirit plead on our behalf?
- ⊞ “Father, I know that Rob sinned, but he has accepted Jesus sacrifice for his sins, so Father, please forgive Rob of that sin...”

1 John 2

2 And He (Jesus) Himself is **the propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only but also **for the whole world**.

“Propitiation” is from the Greek word “**Hilasmos**”, a “Sacrifice”.

- ⊞ **God established** in the Old Testament the idea if “Without the shedding of Blood, there is no forgiveness of sin.
- ⊞ **The life of an innocent**, offered up in place **of the guilty**, made the guilty one who believed it, forgiven, made right in the sight of God.

So, Jesus became the final, the greatest sacrifice for us.

- ⊞ **Jesus had never sinned**, He was perfect, without any defect, and He was also God in the Body of a man.
- ⊞ **So when Jesus offered His life** as a sacrifice for us, for our sins, He was offering a perfect sacrifice, with a value that is beyond the value of everything else in the universe.

According to the principle that God established in the Old Testament, when we make Jesus sacrifice our own, we are completely forgiven for every wrong thing we have ever done or ever will do.

Hebrews 10

1 The old system in the law of Moses **was only a shadow of the things to come**, not the reality of the good things Christ has done for us. The sacrifices under the old system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship.

2 If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared.

3 But just the opposite happened. Those yearly sacrifices reminded them of their sins year after year.

4 For **it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins**.

5 **That is why Christ, when he came into the world,**

10 And **what God wants is for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all time**.

11 Under the old covenant, the priest stands before the altar day after day, offering sacrifices that can never take away sins.

12 **But our High Priest offered himself to God as one sacrifice for sins, good for all time**. Then he sat down at the place of highest honor at God’s right hand.

13 There he waits until his enemies are humbled as a footstool under his feet.

14 For **by that one offering he perfected forever** all those whom he is making holy.

19 And so, dear brothers and sisters, **we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus.**

22 let us go right into the presence of God, with true hearts fully trusting him....

23 Without wavering, let us hold tightly to the hope we say we have, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.

So, the main issue here is the continuing of our fellowship with the Lord, not allowing any sin to break that fellowship.

There is a story of Charles Spurgeon that was crossing the street one day to meet one of his elders.

As he entered the street he suddenly stopped right in the middle of the street and put his head down as though he was praying.

After Spurgeon made it across the street, the Elder asked him **“What were you doing Charles in the middle of the street, you could have been run over. For a moment it looked like you were praying.”**

Mr. Spurgeon replied, *“I was praying dear friend. As I crossed the street a cloud came over me between myself and my Savior, I wanted to remove it before I crossed the street”*.

He realized that there was something he had said or done that was sin and he had not yet brought it to Jesus and confessed to Him. **Mr. Spurgeon didn't want his fellowship broken with the Lord even for the time it took to cross the street.**

- ☞ **Many times we wonder** why we cannot feel the Lords presence in our life or why we feel so empty or dry in our spiritual walk.
- ☞ **Sin breaks our fellowship with the Lord.** If we haven't brought our failures to the Lord and confessed them and asked Him to cleanse us, then that intimacy we have enjoyed with Jesus is broken.

1 John 1:9

But if we confess our sins to him, **he is faithful and just to forgive us** and to cleanse us from every wrong.

It is important to remember that When we sin, we have not lost our salvation, we have not lost our position as Sons and Daughters of God, we have lost something though that should be equally as precious to us...Our intimacy with the Lord.

If you have felt like you have been far from the Lord lately, or like you are kind of empty inside, and like you cannot feel the Lord's presence, it is very easy this morning to restore that intimacy.

- ☞ **Right now, right where you sit**, just cry out to the Lord and confess any sin that you might have done.
- ☞ **Perhaps you have been suffering through a trial** and really beginning to wonder if the Lord does love you...You can confess to Him right now, that difficulty in trusting Him.
- ☞ **You can cry out to Him** and admit, *“I was wrong Father, you are a Good, and Kind, a Loving and Holy God...”*
- ☞ **At the very moment** that you humble yourself and are honest and admit what you did was wrong, **you are forgiven and your fellowship with the Lord is restored.**

To confess or Repent from something means that you agree with the Lord that it was wrong, you are looking at it from his perspective, not making any excuses, just admitting you did it.

- ☞ **You can have your fellowship restored** right now as you pray and ask the Lord for His forgiveness... (**PRAY**)

When Rob and Mike were little boys, they had both gotten into trouble over something and I told them that until they confessed what they had done and acknowledged it as wrong, they couldn't come down from their rooms.

Well Rob was always the first to try and amend things, so down he came: *“Dad If you say that what I did was wrong, I am sorry...”*

I told him that was not good enough, he could go back up to his room and think about it some more.

A few minutes later Mike came down and said: *“I'm sorry dad, can I come down now?”*

“No mike I told him, that is not good enough, go back up to your room.”

Awhile later they both came down after they had apparently discussed what had happened.

Rob, the spokesman said with tears in his eyes, *“Dad, please forgive me, Mike jumped in, Me too dad, we know that we have done wrong, will you please forgive us?”*

“Yes” I told them both, You are forgiven, then I gave them both a hug and they rejoined the family in the living room.

- ☞ **If you have given your life to Jesus**, then you are a Son or a Daughter of God.
- ☞ **Your Father wants** to have fellowship with you.
- ☞ **He knows** that everyday **you are going to sin and fail**, that is why He allowed Jesus to come and die for you.

- ☞ **If you are basing your whole relationship** with the Lord on some list of rules, then you are always going to live in a state of constant frustration and defeat.
- ☞ **Because you will never be able** to always do the right thing in your life and never sin.

Jesus wants you to live in freedom. By the exercise of your own free will, when you admit to him that what you did was wrong, He will forgive you and restore you, it is just that simple.

1 John 2

3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

Now, most people read this verse and use it to try and prove whether or not they are truly saved.

- ☞ **John is not talking about Security**, he is talking about **Assurance**.
- ☞ **As Gods son or daughter**, you already are part of His family.
- ☞ **How do we know for sure** that we really are part of this family?

The assurance comes by keeping His commandments.

- ☞ **Do you WANT to** keep His commandments?
- ☞ **Now, first of all**, John is not talking about the 10 commandments.
- ☞ **You may not realize it yet**, but the 10 commandments are not for the saved, but for the unsaved.
- ☞ **Now, please** don't leave here this morning and think "*Pastor Rob told us that we don't have to keep the 10 commandments*, that is not what I am saying...**listen carefully...**

Romans 3:20

Therefore by the deeds of the law **no flesh will be justified** in His sight, for **by the law is the knowledge of sin**.

The purpose of the 10 commandments was to bring us into the knowledge that if we must keep these 10 commandments to be acceptable to God, then we are never going to be able to do it...

Romans 3:19-24NLT

19 Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for **its purpose is to keep people from having excuses** and **to bring the entire world into judgment before God**.

20 For no one can ever be made right in God's sight by doing what his law commands. For the more we know God's law, the clearer it becomes that we aren't obeying it.

21 But now God has shown us a different way of being right in his sight—not by obeying the law but by the way promised in the Scriptures long ago.

22 We are made right in God's sight **when we trust in Jesus Christ to take away our sins**. And we all can be saved in this same way, no matter who we are or what we have done.

23 For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard.

24 Yet now **God in his gracious kindness declares us not guilty. He has done this through Christ Jesus,** who has freed us by taking away our sins.

The 10 commandments were given to the nation and people of Israel.

- ☞ **The Nation of Israel** was to keep these commandments if they wanted to be Gods people.
- ☞ **For those who do not know the Lord yet** in a real and personal way, the 10 commandments **were given to show them how guilty they are.**
- ☞ **The purpose of the 10 commandments** was not so that we would look at them and then try to make ourselves acceptable to God by trying to keep them.

James 2:10

For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

If you try to keep all of the 10 commandments to be acceptable to God, and you break just the 9th, you lied to someone, then according to Gods Word, you are guilty of breaking all 10.

God's standard for us is Perfection. If You are going to try and be acceptable to God based on the 10 commandments, God demands that you keep all of his 10 commandments perfectly, every day of your life...

The purpose of the 10 commandments was so that a person would look at God Righteous requirements in these 10 commandments, what he requires to be accepted by Him, and acknowledge that they would never be able to keep them.

- ☞ **Then fall upon the mercy of God** and just say, "*Lord be merciful to me a sinner.*"
- ☞ **That they would find another way** to be acceptable to God, through what Jesus has done for them, by paying for their sins.

The commandments that the Lord gave to us as His Sons and Daughters after we are saved, are found in 1 Thessalonians chapter 5

To the Unsaved, the Lord gave 10 commandments, but to the Saved, His own, He gave at least 22 commands:

1 Thessalonians 1:14-28

1. Comfort each other.
2. Edify each other.
3. Recognize those that labor among you, those over you, those who admonish you in the Lord
4. Esteem These very highly in love.
5. Be at peace among yourselves.
6. Warn those who are unruly.
7. Comfort the Fainthearted.
8. Uphold the Weak.

9. Be patient with all.
10. No one renders evil for evil.
11. Always pursue what is good.
12. Rejoice always.
13. Pray without ceasing.
14. In everything give thanks.
15. Do not quench the Holy spirit.
16. Do not despise prophecies.
17. Test all things, hold fast the good.
18. Abstain from every form of evil.
19. The God of peace sanctify you completely.
20. Your whole Spirit, Soul, and Body preserved Blameless.
21. Pray for us.
22. Greet each other with a Holy kiss.

You can Pick up the CD and study on 1 Thessalonians Chapter 5, part 2, for a detailed study in these 22 Commands.

1 John 2

4 He who says, “I **know** Him,” and does not keep **His commandments**, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

John presented the Positive side of how we can know we are truly saved, **when we have the desire to keep these 22 commandments.**

- ☞ **Here in verse 4**, John gives us the Negative way we can know if we are saved.
- ☞ **If we don't want to keep these commandments, If we have no desire to please our Father with our life**, then even if we claim to know Jesus as Lord and Savior, “we are A Liar.”

It is really just as simple as this:

“If you want to do those things that please your Father in heaven, then you Know Him. If you do not have any desire to please your Father or be obedient to Him, you do not know Him.”

Matthew 7:21-23

21 “**Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven**, but he who **does the will** of My Father in heaven.

22 Many will say to Me in that day, “Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?”

23 And then I will declare to them, “I never knew you; depart from Me, you **who practice lawlessness!**”

Now, there are many, many people today that clam that they are a Christian, that they belong to God. **Is there a way that we and they can know for sure?**

- ☞ **If something has happened to you on the inside**, and you suddenly have this new nature that is crying out for fellowship with God, that desperately wants to know Him, that compels you in your heart of hearts to want to please Him with your life, then You can know for certain you really are saved.
- ☞ **It doesn't matter how many times a person goes to church**, if they do not have a deep inner hunger and Love for the Word of God, they don't have any desire to please the Lord with what they say or what they do, **John says Hey you are a liar, you don't know Him!**" (Please don't get mad at me, I didn't say this, the bible says this)

John 14:12-16

12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also**; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

13 And whatever you ask **in My name**, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

15 "**If you love Me, keep My commandments.**

16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—

Did you get the whole context, the subject of what Jesus is talking about.

1. **The one who truly believes in Jesus**, will be doing the same thing Jesus does.
2. **Whatever they ask for in prayer**, will be in accordance with what Jesus name stands for. Goodness, Righteousness, Peace, to Love...
3. **It will become evident** that **those that really love Jesus will be found doing what He said to do.**

Again, these are not the 10 commandments, these 10 commandments were given to the nation of Israel, the commandments that Jesus gave to us, that prove whether or not we are truly are actually far greater than the 10, His commandments to us are the 22 I gave you this morning.

1. Comfort each other.
2. Edify each other.
3. Recognize those that labor among you, those over you, those who admonish you in the Lord
4. Esteem These very highly in love.
5. Be at peace among yourselves.
6. Warn those who are unruly.
7. Comfort the Fainthearted.
8. Uphold the Weak.
9. Be patient with all.
10. No one renders evil for evil.
11. Always pursue what is good.
12. Rejoice always.
13. Pray without ceasing.
14. In everything give thanks.
15. Do not quench the Holy spirit.

16. Do not despise prophecies.
17. Test all things, hold fast the good.
18. Abstain from every form of evil.
19. The God of peace sanctify you completely.
20. Your whole Spirit, Soul, and Body preserved Blameless.
21. Pray for us.
22. Greet each other with a Holy kiss.

John 8:29

..for I always do those things that please Him.

Now none of us can say “I always do those things that please Him”, but we should be saying “I always want to do those things that please Him”.

1 Corinthians 2:14

But **the natural man** does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned

The Natural man, the person who has never come to a personal trust and surrender of their life to Jesus as their Lord and Savior, doesn't want to please God.

- ☞ **The person** that **has surrendered** their life to Jesus, will immediately detect a change inside of them that suddenly **wants to please God**.
- ☞ **They will also notice** that there will be a tremendous struggle, because the very things we want to do to please God, we seem to always mess up and do wrong things.
- ☞ **The difference** between the saved and the unsaved: **Does it bother you when you mess up?**
- ☞ **If you have been** “Born Again”, **it will always bother you**.
- ☞ **If it doesn't bother** you when you sin, you haven't been Born Again.

1 John 2

4 He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep **His commandments**, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1 John 2

5 But **whoever keeps His word**, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

Verse 4 speaks of “**Keeping His Commandments**”, here in verse 5, it speaks of “**Keeping His Word**”.

- ☞ **What is the difference?**
- ☞ **The commandments of God are the Word of God**, so aren't they both the same?

Yes the Commandments are the Word of God, but the Word of God is not all Commandments, it is much more than that.

- ☞ **The Word or God**, all of it from Genesis to Revelation, is the expression of the Will of God for our lives.

John 14:15 Jesus said:

“If you love Me, **keep My commandments**.”

John 14:23

Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will **keep My word**

What is the difference between these two?

Lets say that you had volunteered to help us prepare the church for the thanksgiving dinner last month her in the Sanctuary.

Because you volunteered to serve, you were **Commanded** to come and help set up the tables in the sanctuary.

Well, the pastor that was supposed to go to Flagstaff to pickup the tables is not able to get there because he had to take his wife to the doctor in Phoenix.

So, you drive to Flagstaff, take your own trailer, go to the rental place and pickup the tables and **even pay for it yourself**.

Now you didn't have to go to Flagstaff to pickup the tables, you didn't have t take your own trailer, and you most certainly didn't have to pay for it yourself. **Your only commandment was to come and set up the tables in the sanctuary**.

So you do come and set up the tables as you were commanded to, but you picked up the tables, and paid for them yourself **because you love the Lord and the people of this little church**.

This is how it is for the person who has truly been Born Again.

- ☞ **They not only want to** obey the Commandments of God.
- ☞ **They also** want to obey the Word of God.
- ☞ **Because they want** to please the Father in everything they do.

Many times, some Christians have asked me as a teacher of Gods Word.

“Can I do this or that and still be a Christian...?”

- ☞ **That is** the wrong question.
- ☞ **The question that they should have asked was:** *“What can I do to please my heavenly Father?”*

Someone who has truly fallen in love with Jesus and has seen with their Heart what it cost Jesus to be tortured to death so they could be forgiven, wants to please the Father in everything they do.

- ☞ **And WHEN they sin and fail to do those things** that are pleasing to their Father, it really bothers them.
- ☞ **But instead** of allowing the enemy to bring condemnation and guilt.
- ☞ **They come before their Fathers** Loving throne of Grace and fall at His feet.
- ☞ **They confess** what they did was wrong and their desire to not do that again.

They immediately find forgiveness and that they had never lost the love and close friendship that they love so much, because they came as soon as the offense happened, and kept their fellowship with their Father alive.

This is how you can tell whether or not you truly have been Saved.

The Lord of the universe **does** demand perfection from His creation. But If they are to be perfected, it will only be because He has supplied it through what Jesus has done.

It is not how high Gods requirements for us are, it is only that He will meet for us, his highest requirement when we turn our lives over to Jesus as Lord and Savior.

What made Jesus perfect was not a list of rules, it was that He never went anywhere, said anything, did anything with out His Father.

So, together this morning we all say...

*“I have failed”
“I am failing”
“I will fail”
“But Jesus never fails...”*

and... *“I always Want to do those things that are pleasing to my Father...”*