

FIRST JOHN

Signs of Fellowship // 1 John 1:5-2:2

The Nature of God

1. God is LIGHT (1:5)
2. God is LOVE (4:8)
3. God is LIFE (5:11)

3 Signs of True Fellowship

1. You know God IF you **live in the light.** (1:5-7)

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"*5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all.*"

God is light = God is **holy**

"*6 If we **say** we have fellowship with him while we **walk** in darkness, we **lie** and do not practice the truth.*"

Just because someone "professes" something doesn't mean that they truly "possess" it.

If you live willfully/habitually in a **pattern** of sin you do not know God.

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*"7 But if we **walk in the light**, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his son cleanses us from all sin."*

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2. You know God IF you **face your failures** (1:8-10)

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"⁸ If we say **we have no sin**, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us..."

"¹⁰ If we say **we have not sinned**, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."

Some will...

- **Ignore** their sins
- **Redefine** their sins
- **Blame** their sins
- **Justify** their sins
- **Conceal** their sins

The more you **walk** in the light
the more **aware** you become of your own sin.

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"⁹ If we **confess** our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Those who know God **confess** their sins honestly.

"confess" –homologeo

"homo" = same
"lego" = to say

"to say the same"

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3. You know God IF you **rest in the Redeemer** (2:1-2)

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*"1-2 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an **advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 He is the **propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world."*

Jesus is our...

- **Advocate** (*parakletos* = comforter)–Defense Attorney

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Jesus is our...

- **Advocate**
- **Atonement** (propitiation = to appease the wrath of God)

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Our Response? Self-Examination

- Am I striving to walk in holiness?
- Am I confessing sin honestly?
- Am I resting in the finished work of Jesus?

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