

## A REMINDER OF THE THREE “TESTS” OF SALVATION THROUGHOUT 1 JOHN

1. The THEOLOGICAL test — Do you BELIEVE that Jesus is the Son of God (18x) and therefore, the LIGHT of the world?

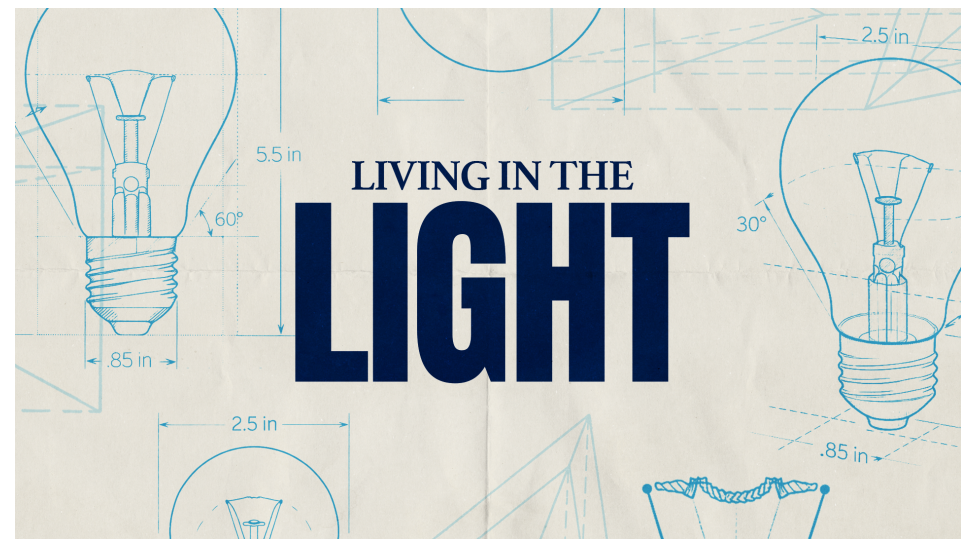
*1John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.*

2. The MORAL Test — Is it your desire to be holy? Are you making every EFFORT to live above sin?

*1John 3:6 No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; . . .*

3. SOCIAL Test — Do you truly LOVE others?

*1John 4:21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.*



June 6 & 7, 2026 | Living in the Light- 4 | 1 John 2:7-11 | Dennis Miller

### CIRCULAR AND DIFFICULT

*1John 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us. But they went out, that it might become plain that they all are not of us.*

*1John 5:6 This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. 7 For there are three that testify: 8 the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.*

*1John 4:18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.*

*1John 5:16 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. 17 All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.*

*1John 2:7 Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. 8 At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, . . .*

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURES —

*1John 2:7 Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard. 8 At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. 9 Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. 10 Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. 11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.*

## THE OLD COMMANDMENT — VS. 7

*1John 2:7 Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard.*

1. You have had this commandment since the BEGINNING of the SCRIPTURES.

*Lev 19:18 You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.*

*Romans 13:8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. . . .10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.*

*Jude 3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.*

2. You have had this commandment since the beginning of your OWN Christian FAITH.

*1John 2:24 Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father.*

*1John 2:7 . . . The old commandment is the word that you have heard.*

## THE NEW COMMANDMENT — VS. 8

*1John 2:8 At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.*

Why was John talking about something new? The beginnings of the CULTS were presenting a “NEW truth.”

Although a passage of Scripture can be new to YOU, there is NO new TRUTH since the completion of the Scriptures!

1. This is a new commandment in the sense that it is “*true in HIM.*” Now we can grasp true love having SEEN it in Jesus.

*John 13:1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.... 4 . . . He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.*

*John 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.*

2. This is a new commandment in the sense that it is “[*true*] in YOU.”

*John 14:25 “These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*

*Ephesians 1:15 For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints,*

*Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,*

*1Corinthians 13:13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*

3. And this love is GROWING because the Light of Jesus is beginning to BRIGHTEN a dark world!

*1John 2:8 . . . because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.*

## THE PRACTICE OF THIS COMMANDMENT — VS. 9-11

*1John 2:9 Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness. 10 Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling. 11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.*

1. If you claim to be a Christian but HATE your brother, you are living like a PAGAN (“*in darkness*”).

2. If you love your brother(s), even those who are DIFFICULT to love, you are living like JESUS (“*in the light*”), and you will not have the tendency to sin AGAINST them.

3. But again, hatred is DARKNESS, and if you’re living in hatred then you will be constantly “*walk[ing] in the darkness*” and tempted to SIN AGAINST your brothers. Don’t be BLIND!

## BOTTOM LINE

1. The command to love one another is OLD and NEW. It is never out of FASHION.

2. One of the greatest PROOFS of our faith is to love one another as Christ loved us! Are YOU proving your faith?