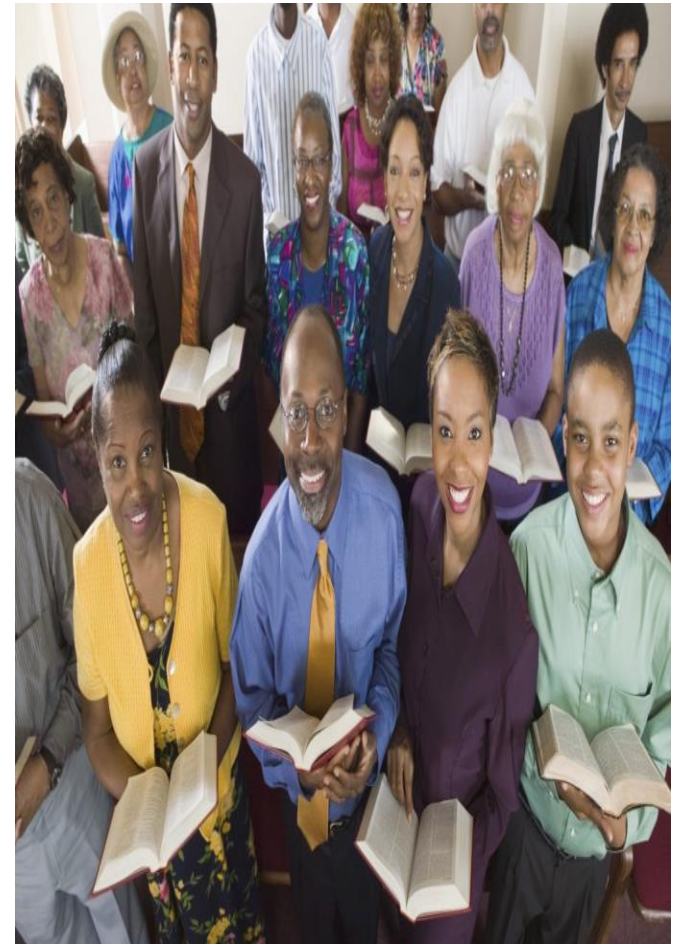



Blessed Hope Bible Church

www.bhbcbstl.org



***Learning ...
Loving ...
Leaning ...
Living ...
Leading ...
By the Word
of God***



A large crowd of black human icons, some male and some female, arranged in a loose, circular pattern. Two red human icons stand out from the crowd, positioned near the center-left.

Preaching theme

1 JOHN

finding what's real in a world of fake

MARKS OF A GENUINE NEW BIRTH

1 JOHN 5:1-5

Many people claim that they:

Know God

Abide in God

Have been born of God

Are children of God

Have Fellowship with God

Love God

Speak for God

Are in the Presence of God

The apostle John argues in his epistle that these **claims** can be tested.

These are NOT **subjective** claims that cannot be proven, they are **objective** claims that can be seen in one's life.



“In this the children of God and the children of the devil are **manifest**: Whoever does not practice righteousness is **not** of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.” 1John 3:10

Now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God.

1 John 3:10

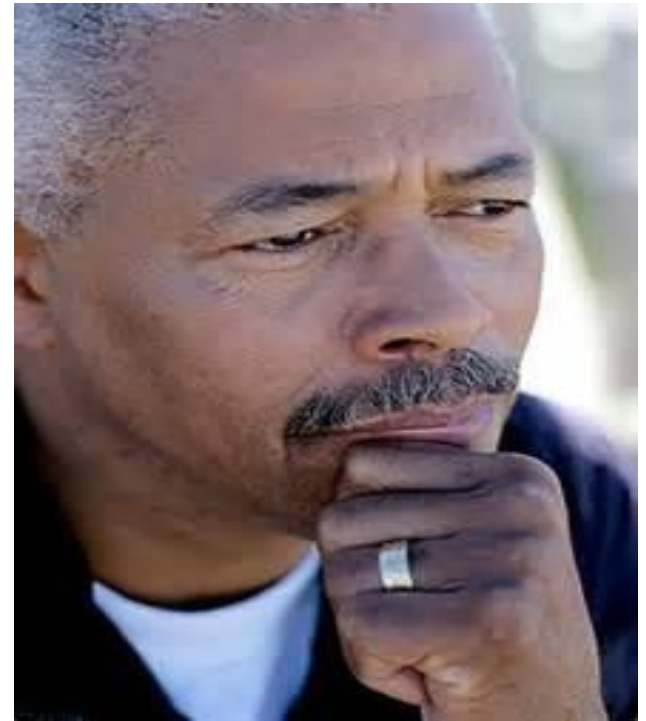


 facebook.com/jesusisalifestyle

**If you are a true child of God (i.e., one who has been born of God),
you will naturally show it.**

The Big Question:

How can we show that we are genuine children of God (one who has been born of God)?



THERE ARE THREE KEY TELL-TELL SIGNS THAT SHOW THAT ONE IS A GENUINE CHILD OF GOD

- **THE RIGHT KIND OF FAITH (DOCTRINE)**
1 JOHN 5:1A
- **THE RIGHT KIND OF LOVE (DISPOSITION)**
1 JOHN 5:1B-3
- **THE RIGHT KIND OF VICTORY (DESTINY)**
1 JOHN 5:4-5

SIGN #1: THE RIGHT KIND OF FAITH

- **THE TEXT:** “Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, ...”
 - “Christ” means “Messiah,” “the anointed One.”
 - As “Messiah,” Jesus is not only the one and only Saviour of the world, but the one and only sovereign Ruler and Judge of the universe, to whom all creatures (angels and humans) are accountable and responsible

- **THE TEACHING:** The belief that Jesus is the Christ shows that one's new birth is real.
 - The Gnostic heresy of Cerinthus in the apostle John's day taught that Jesus was just a mere human being. He taught that Jesus and the Christ were two distinct beings
 - As a results Cerinthus denied:
 - The deity of Jesus
 - The Incarnation of Jesus
 - The sinlessness of Jesus
 - The God-man nature of Jesus
 - The resurrection of Jesus
 - The ascension and exultation of Jesus

- **THE TRUTH:** What you believe about Jesus shows whether or not you have been born of God!!
 - Whosoever believes upon Jesus shall not perish but have everlasting life.
 - However, your belief in Jesus must be correct, based on what the Bible tells you about Jesus—not upon your own human opinions about Jesus!
 - Whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ is NOT born of God.

SIGN #2: THE RIGHT KIND OF LOVE

- **THE TEXT:** “... and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.”
 - Being “begotten” of God (i.e., regeneration, being born again) is an act of God through the agency of the Holy Spirit, in response to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - John 1:12-13:

- **THE TEACHING:** Love for your brother/sister in Christ shows that your new birth is real.
 - By this we **know** that we **love** the children of God
 - We love God (i.e., with a love that is NOT based on our conditions and standards).
 - We keep His commandment (i.e., with a obedience that is NOT based on our conditions and standards)
 - Love for God and obedience to God is based on trust in God—thus His commandments are not burdensome
 - They are not meant to enslave us, or threaten us, or force to live and act contrary to our will or make our life miserable.
 - They are instead, a joy and a delight, and a desire of our hearts which give our lives purpose, joy, hope.

SIGN #3: THE RIGHT KIND OF VICTORY

- **THE TEXT:** For whatever is born of God overcomes the world.
- **THE TEACHING:** This is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.
- **QUESTION:** How does our faith overcome the world?

- Our faith trust in the world, wisdom, trustworthiness, faithfulness, and truthfulness of God—instead of the opinions of the world.
- Our faith has an expectant hope in the promises of God—instead of the hopelessness, despair, and critical cynicism of the world.
- Our faith leads to a life of righteousness, compassion, and love for others—instead of the mean-spiritedness, abuse, wickedness, and hatred of the world
- **Point:** Our faith overcomes the world because our faith is depended upon God, the sovereign Creator, Preserver, Protector, Provider, Ruler, Judge, Vindicator, and Rewarder.

CHALLENGE

Does your life show that
you are a real child of
God?

RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR
SAVIOUR TODAY!!



1. **Acknowledge** that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on the cross for your sin, and that He arose again from the dead on the third day.
2. **Admit** that you are a sinner, **guilty** of sin and **responsible** and **accountable** to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
3. **Affirm** that the Lord Jesus Christ is your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.