

27. TESTS OF A PERSON'S SALVATION

Aim: To discern whether to counsel a person to be saved or to believe that he is already saved.

Problem: With many people we meet it is very hard to tell if they are saved. Jesus predicted this in His parable of the wheat and the tares. Matthew 13:24-30,36-43. You can discern by their fruits whether or not they are saved. Matthew 7:15-20.
What are some ways of testing to see if a person is really saved?

- 1. LOVE THE BRETHREN** (A desire for Church)
"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God." 1 John 4:7; 1 John 2:9-11; 1 John 3:14-19.
- 2. DISLIKE FOR SIN**
This results in a true believer overcoming the world by faith in Christ. 'For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world:&this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.' 1 John 5:4
- 3. LISTENING TO TEACHING and ADVICE OF GODLY CHRISTIANS**
"We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." 1 John 4:6.
If a person is rebellious to Christians over an important issue and refuses to hear (or heed) them, then we are to count him as a heathen. Matthew 18:15-17.
- 4. CONFESS THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD TO OTHERS** with your mouth
'Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.' 1 John 4:2,3,15.
"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Romans 10:9.
- 5. KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS**
"And he that keepeth His commandments dwelleth in him, and He in him." 1 John 3:24a; 2:3-6.
- 6. POSSESSING THE HOLY SPIRIT**
"And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us." 1 John 3:24; 4:13
- 7. JESUS CHRIST IS PRECIOUS TO YOU**
"Unto you therefore which believe he is precious." 1 Peter 2:7a.
Is Jesus Christ precious to you? If He is, you can't take His name in vain.
- 8. GOOD WORKS** characterise our life after salvation. James 2:14-26.
- 9. GOD DISCIPLINES A TRUE BELIEVER WHEN HE SINS.** Hebrews 12:5-11.
- 10. IF YOU HAVE CHRIST (the SON) YOU HAVE LIFE.** 1 John 5:11-13.

CONCLUSION

Just because a person professes to be a Christian, it doesn't mean that he is really saved. Matthew 7:21-23 Wait for the fruits before you believe that he is saved. Otherwise, we may be in danger of assuming they are saved when they are really lost and going to hell.