

“Things You Know” (1 John 3:14-24)

A - ¹⁴**We know** that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.

B - ¹⁵Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

A' - ¹⁶**We know** love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

B' - ¹⁷But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

A'' - ¹⁹**We will know** by this that we are of the truth, and will assure our heart before Him ²⁰in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart and knows all things.

B'' - ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep *His commandments* and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.

B''' - ²³This is *His commandment*, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him.

A''' - **We know** by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

Analysis of the Text: The text presents several parallel statements stating things we (will) know. Further explanation follows each of the “we (will) know” statements. John’s theme of assurance comes through loud and clear. Remember, structure helps with meaning.

Main Point of the Text:

1. What is the text about? Answer: How we know that we have passed from death into life, are in the truth, have the Spirit within us, and that we can assure ourselves before God.
2. How do we know that we have passed from death into life, are in the truth, have the Spirit within us, and can assure ourselves before God? Answer: We love and do not hate our brothers, freely give of the world’s goods, keep God’s commandments, and believe in Jesus, the Son of God.
3. Main Point of the Text: Combine the answers to 1 and 2.

We know that we have passed from death into life, are in the truth, have the Spirit within us, and can assure ourselves before God when we love and do not hate our brothers, freely give of the world’s goods, keep God’s commandments, and believe in Jesus, the Son of God.

Main Lesson of the Text:

If you love and do not hate your brothers, freely give of the world’s goods, keep God’s commandments, and believe in Jesus, the Son of God, then you know that you have passed from death into life, are in the truth, have the Spirit within you, and can assure yourself before God.

Food for Thought: Consider how “the things we know” affect your personal assurance of salvation.