

IV. THE _____ OF OBEDIENCE (2:15-17)

The enemy of obedience is the world and there are many good reasons why Christians should not love “the world”:

A. Because of what the world _____ (v 15a)

“In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”

II Corinthians 4:4

“11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

Ephesians 6:11-12

B. Because of what the world _____ to us (vs 15b-16)

“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.”

James 4:4

“And be not conformed to this world:...”

Romans 12:2a

“For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica;...”

II Timothy 4:10a

C. Because of _____ the world is going (v 17)

“13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss:...”

I Corinthians 3:13-15a

DO YOU HAVE OBEDIENCE?

“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”

James 1:22

BIRTHMARKS OF A CONFIDENT BELIEVER

Birthmark #2 - Obedience

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INTRODUCTION

A. Life is filled with uncertainties. Will today's job be there tomorrow? Will my marriage survive? Will my children be ok?

Sometimes these uncertainties touch our spiritual being. We wonder about our relationship with God. Is my life pleasing to Him? These doubts erode our confidence and can be erased.

“13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

14 And this is the confidence that we have in him,...”

I John 5:13-14a

B. Join me in this eight week series we will reveal the birthmarks of a confident believer.

May 9	Birthmark #1 - Joy
TODAY	Birthmark #2- Obedience
May 23	Birthmark #3-
May 30	Birthmark #4-
June 6	Birthmark #5-
June 13	Birthmark #6-
June 20	Birthmark #7-
June 27	Birthmark #8-

Come as you are and build your confidence as we study God's Word.

C. **TEXT:** I John 2:3-17 (Pew Bible Page 241/New Testament)

“His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.”

John 2:5

HOW TO HAVE OBEDIENCE

I. THE _____ OF OBEDIENCE (2:3-6)

A. Obedience is _____ (v 3)

“14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,

16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?”

James 2:14-20

B. Obedience is not _____ (v 4)

“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

Joshua 1:8

C. Obedience is _____ (vs 5-6)

“But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.”

Luke 11:28

II. THE _____ OF OBEDIENCE (2:7-11)

A. Love is _____ (vs 7-8)

“12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

John 15:12-13

B. Love is _____ (vs 9-10)

“34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”

John 13:34-35

III. THE _____ OF OBEDIENCE (2:12-14)

There are three levels of spiritual growth:

A. “Little Children” – Immature Christians

They obey because they _____ to.

“1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.”

I Corinthians 3:1-2

B. “Young Men” – Mature Christians

They obey because they _____ to.

“16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:”

Ephesians 6:16-17

C. “Fathers” – Very Mature Christians

They obey because they _____ to.

“16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”

Romans 6:16-18