

Walking in Obedience

Sermon 5 in the 1 John Series

1 John 2:3-17

I. Knowing God is Tested by Obeying God 2:3-11

A. How to Know that we Know Him 2:3

B. The Liar 2:4

C. God's Love Perfected 2:5-6

John uses this Greek phrase “**the love of God**” in 3 ways in this epistle.

1. God's love for us as believers.
2. The believers love for God.
3. The love that comes from God that causes us to love one another.

“Keeps” is present tense = continuous.

1. This is how we know we are “in Him”.
2. So we are to walk as He (Jesus) walked.

1 Peter 2:21 -- For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, **leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.** (ESV)

1 Thess. 2:10-12 -- ¹⁰ You *are* witnesses, and God *also*, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe; ¹¹ as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father *does* his own children, ¹² that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

D. An Old Commandment and a New Commandment 2:7-8

Much confusion has been raised by this statement.
It certainly is not a contradiction – it is a contrast.

E. Living in Darkness 2:9

F. The New Commandment 2:10-11

Here is the New Commandment.

2 John 4-6 – It is love and it is proven by obedience

John 13:34-35 – John is referencing back to the words of Christ

II. **Three Stages of Christian Life in the Church 2:12-14**

A. What is true about the little Children?

1. Their sins are forgiven!
2. They know God the Father through Jesus Christ the Lord!

B. What is true about the young strong Men (and women)?

1. Their sins are forgiven and they know God the Father through the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. They battle with the Evil One and overcome!
3. They have learned – they have grown – they have overcome!

C. What is true about the older Saints (Fathers)?

They have known Him who is from the beginning.

III. **Love not the World – 2:15-17**

Do not love the world

Do not cling to the world

Do not set your mind on the world

Do not walk in the ways that are contrary to Christ!

A description of what IS in the world.