## Do YOU know God?- Abiding in Christ

## **Pastor Othniel James**

Main Scriptures: 1 John 2:28-29; John 15: 4-6

**Support Scriptures:** 1 John 4:15-16; 1 John 2: 6; 1 John 1:6; 1 John 2: 14,24; 1 John 4: 12-14; John 15: 7; 1 John 4: 16, 20; 1 John 2: 19; Galatians 5: 22-23; 1 John 2: 28; 1 John 3: 24; 1 John 2: 17; Matthew 16: 27; Revelation 20: 13; Matthew 25: 31-32; John 5: 22, 28-29; Romans 2: 16; 2 Corinthians 5: 10; 2 Timothy 4: 1-8; Matthew 7: 16-18; John 3: 3-5; 2 Corinthians 5: 17; 1 Peter 1: 23; 1 John 5: 1; Acts 27: 31; 1 John 4: 16-18

## Recap Part I-6:

7 Test challenge To KNOW HIM #1- KEEPING HIS COMMANDMENT #2- LOVING YOUR NEIGHBOUR #3- REMEMBERING OUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH #4- LOVE NOT THE WORLD #5- GUARD AGAINST ANTICHRISTS #6- THE GOSPEL LIVING IN US

There are a few promises here and a very strong language from our Lord Jesus "Abide in me and I in you... without me, you can do nothing... if a man abides not in me he is cast forth as a branch... and they are burnt". John continues to encourage the church of the living God. In 1John 2: 28-29, he is encouraging the believers to remain faithful. This test will prove whether or not we know God. Do we abide in Christ? Remember he is the only one that came down from heaven, he is the only witness. A gift to this world that all who believe in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. No man can know God except by Jesus Christ. He is the way to God. He is truth and he is the life. No man comes to the Father but through Jesus. He is God made known in flesh - Emanuel God with Us. Jesus Christ is God made known in flesh. He is righteous. He is sinless. He is the perfect lamb of God full of grace and truth. He is the very nature of God the bible says the visible expression of God. He is perfect in every area of his life. Heaven testified of him as the beloved Son in whom I'm well pleased. When we abide in Christ we abide in the very nature of God. We live righteous lives. We do the things that are pleasing to God. the person who abides in Christ is one who knows God. in parallel the person who refuses to abide in Christ does not know God.

John is posing a question to us all - do we abide in Christ and then he outlines why we should abide in Christ and ends with the proof of someone who abides in Christ

Abide means to dwell, continue, sojourn, rest in or upon. It is being set and fixed and remains there in a fixed state, condition, or being. Not today and then take a break, no remaining in a fixed state. Being at home and being permanent and settled.

## What does it mean to abide in Christ?

To abide in Christ - to sojourn and rest on him to continue on and on in Christ and to be at home in Christ and find our permanent home in Him and be settled in Him to have ones focus on him where Christ is the supreme purpose.

The Life that Christ left as an example is the life that we live in Him. The old man is dead and Christ lives in us so we do the things that please Him.

When a person abides in Christ he has the nature of Christ. He walks like him and talks like him and his life is a reflection of Jesus. Abiding in Christ means a person confesses that Jesus is Christ. Abiding in Christ is a lifestyle. 1 John 2: 6

The believer learns to trust in the Lord with all his heart and he does not lean on his own understanding. The Lord will direct his path because he is abiding in Him.

Abiding means they walk in open confession before God. He is not trying to pretend, he opens his life before God because he knows he has no strength of his own and he depends totally on the sacrifice that Jesus made on Calvary. AS soon as he misses the mark he openly confesses to God and asks him to wash him.

The believer walks in the word and knows the word of God. The word must live and abide in the believer.

abiding in Christ means the Holy Ghost lives and dwells in us. 1 John 4: 12-14

A person has the power to live as they should - John 15: 7

A person dwells in Love and unity with all other believers. 1 John 4: 16, 20 - if we hate our brother there is a problem

A person bears fruit - Galatians 5: 22-23

A person loves others - the great beauty of the Church that the world can not comprehend there is no other example like this in the world.

A person continues in the Church 1 John 2: 19

This person does not continue in Sin

The believer possesses confidence and unashamed that prepares them for eternity - 1 John 2: 28

A person lives a surrendered life - 1 John 3: 24

A person does the will of God. - Jesus confessed that he came to do the will of Him that sent him. 1 John 2: 17

A person experiences the continuous presence and anointing of the Holy Ghost. -

The purpose to abiding in Christ - When he returns we will have confidence and not be ashamed.

The purpose to the lifestyle and worship - we are confident that he that has ascended is coming back again.

Remember that this is an epistle to the church.

We must be ready for his return ore we will be ashamed - to be embarrassed at Christ's return. John is saying there will be a shame, disgrace, and embarrassment when Jesus returns. Think about it the church is the bride of Christ. if a man and a woman are going to get married and on the day of the wedding the man is at the front according to our tradition, and when he sees her coming and the wife looks at him and turns around and walks back through the door. Someone would question if there is any love there. Folks who are madly in love walk down the aisle to live happily ever after. We have to make sure that when the trumpet sounds we are not running away that those who are living in him are excited about his return.

He is coming back to judge the secrets of men John is making the emphasis that we abide in him in these times we are living in where many will not endure sound doctrine (1 Timothy 4: 1- 4)

God is truth and in him, there is no lie. The revelation of Jesus Christ is full of grace and truth.

The proof of abiding - Living a righteous life. Not what men say but what you do. Show me your lifestyle and your integrity and I will know if you know Christ Jesus. Matthew 7: 16-18

We are depending on the righteousness of God that the believer rests on. A person who truly believes in Jesus lives in the righteousness of Christ. That person has come to the conclusion that Christ is all and so he casts his entire life on him like a footballer diving for a touchdown.

We know one has received a born-again experience when he lives a righteous life. the believer is now a new creation in Him all things are passed away. Any man who practices righteousness is born of him. (John 3: 3-5)

Born again believer is not an enemy of the cross but is now a Child of God.

There is no salvation outside of Christ. Except his words live in us we can not be saved. We who were enemies have now been elevated to the position of sons. Let's understand that throughout life we will miss the mark and sin but those who abide in him will confess quickly and the Holy Ghost will bring conviction in our spirit.

Perfected Love - God is not about to get you, you rest in the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ and you rest in the Love of Christ. The idea of living in guilt and fear means you don't have an accurate knowledge of the Love of God. His intention is to save you. The fear that people have in imperfect love is a torment. - 1 John 4: 16-18; We must spend time in the word because the word will show us the Love of God and will drive out the fear that is tormenting us. The believer that rests in the love of God is enjoying the Love of Christ in this world.