

Sermon Handout

Knowing Jesus, Part 2

I John 2:3-11

- I. John's Basic Premise** v. 3
- a. Christian assurance rests in obedience
 - i. Emotional feelings are not to be trusted
 - ii. A past experience is not trustworthy
 - iii. A pattern of obedience is a trustworthy sign *cf.* v. 5
 - b. Obedience is not a *condition* of salvation, it is *evidence* of salvation
- II. Three times: "If we claim . . ."** *cf.* 1:6-10
- a. He who claims to know him v. 4
 - If not a keeper of the commandments:
 - He is a liar
 - He does not possess the truth
 - This has always been the case *see* Hos 4:1-5; Jer 9:4-9; Is 5:11-16
 - b. He who claims to abide in him v. 6 *cf.* Jn 15:4-10
 - Ought to walk as Jesus walked *cf.* 1:3; Amos 3:3
 - c. He who claims to be in the light v. 9
 - i. Prefaced by an explanation (old & new are united in Christ)
 - No new commandment v. 7 (the old Word)
 - A new commandment v. 8 (the new Light)
 - cf.* Mt 5:21-42; 22:36-40 (Dt 6:5; Lev 19:18)
 - ii. Followed by the contrast vv. 9-11
 - 1. A claim to be in the light
 - 2. Yet continuing in darkness
 - 3. The treatment of his "brother" is the test
 - a. Whoever hates his brother is still in darkness
 - b. Whoever loves his brother abides in light *cf.* 1:4-5
 - 4. This then is the definition of "walking as he walked" v. 6 (Eph 4:1-2)
- III. Knowing the One who is the Light of men** Jn 1:4-5
- a. Is to be in agreement with him regarding sin 1:6-10
 - b. Is to be converted to being one who lives a transformed life 2:3-11