

Proof of Life: Nature of God...Nature of Sin

1 John 1:5-10

Introduction

- Flowing out of stated purpose of joy: Joy in fellowship with the people of God who find their mutual joy in Christ alone

The Nature of God (v.5)

- This is the message of Christ
- God is Light
 - Perfect, holy and pure
- God is completely devoid of any darkness at all
 - Sinfulness, shameful practices

The Nature of Sin (v.6,8,10)

- Self-preservation
- Self-Deceptive
 - Makes false claims based on the division of the outer show and inner reality
 - Deceives ourselves to think we are without sin, while we are full of lies and devoid of truth altogether
 - Believes God to be a liar, whether directly or indirectly, thinking that the Word has taken root when it has not

The Nature of God and the Nature of Sin in Practice (vv.6-7)

- Claiming Fellowship but Walking in Darkness
 - This is a lie
 - Do not practice the truth

- May even have doctrinal basis for this
 - Light dispels darkness
 - If we are to faithfully examine our lives, we must deal with difficult "If / Then" statements
- Walking in the Light
 - **John 3:19-21**
 - As He is in the Light
 - To follow Him is to be becoming like Him
 - God's nature is the Standard by which we must measure our lives.
 - What is it to walk in the Light?
 - Right doctrine
 - Right practice
 - Yields fellowship with the church
 - Confirms the forgiveness of sin
 - Atoning Work of Christ sufficient for every day

The Nature of God and the Nature of Sin in Confession (vv.8-10)

- Confessing NO Sin
 - False teachers were not necessarily claiming to be sinless, just guiltless for anything they did (**John 9:41; 15:22, 24; 19:11** – all associated with guilt)
 - Deceive ourselves – Why?
 - Truth is not in us (unbeliever)
- Confessing Sin
 - What is confession?
 - He is... (nature)
 - Faithful
 - Just
 - He will... (practice)
 - Forgive us our sins
 - No longer holds sin against us
 - Cleanse us from all unrighteousness
 - Removes the defilement (making way for fellowship)
- Confessing to Never Having Sin

- We call Him a liar – Why?
 - God's Word testifies against us
- His Word is not in us
 - Word of Truth
 - Word as Christ
 - Mark of the lost

Application

- Do you believe that Jesus is the Christ, God the Son, and are you certain you have eternal life in Him?
- Do you agree with Him on the nature of God and the nature of your own sinfulness? Are you willing today to acknowledge that you indeed are a sinner in Need of His saving?
- If you're a believer in Christ, but defeated by sin, confess to the Lord, come back to Him and know a relief of both your guilt and the defilement of sin before this Holy, Light-radiating God that we serve.
- **MEMORIZE 1 JOHN BY THE END OF THE SUMMER**