

Be Sure to be the Real Deal

1 John 2.3-11

How can I be sure I'm a Christian?

➤ ***don't be self-deceived 1.6-10***

***beware of faith without deeds
and of deeds without faith***

James 2.14; Mat 7.22-23

➤ ***test yourself 2 Cor 13.5***

lifestyle: obedience

relationships: love

doctrine: truth

1. The Lifestyle Test, vs 3-6

our obedience to Christ's commands

➤ ***solid grounds for assurance v3***

not sinlessness 1.9-10

but obedience

- know Christ's commands

- read the Bible

1 Pet 2.2-3; 2 Tim 3.16-17

- **serious reasons for doubting v4**
we can't know Jesus
without obeying Jesus 1.6
interactive knowledge Phil 3.10
- **rich rewards to enjoy v5**
deeper experience of God's love
John 14.23
- **mark of authenticity: v6**
walk like Jesus did
his goal – God's glory
John 12.27-28; 17.1
his priority – God's will
Heb 10.5-7; Jn 8.29; Lk 22.42
his food – God's work
John 4.34; 5.17; 17.4

2. The Relationships Test, vs7-11 *our love for Christ's people*

- *don't chase after novelties v7*
John 13.34-35; 1 Thess 4.9
- *take a closer look at Jesus v8*
his love was ...
 - selfless*
 - sacrificial John 10.11,15,18*
 - undeserved Rom 5.6-8*
 - unappreciated Lk 17.17*
 - radiate it!*
- *don't lurk in the dark v9*
 - beware of going blind v11*
Heb 12.14-15; Mat 5.8
- *let the light shine v10*
 - let love reign*