

## Three Tests

1 John 2:3-27

### I. The Moral Test: Obedience (vs. 3-6)

A. Keeping His commands (vs. 3-5)

**Titus 1:16**

**A simple, loving obedience is a natural result of having fellowship and relationship with God**

B. Living as He lived (vs. 6)

**John 15:9,10**

**1 Peter 2:21**

**We can't claim to live in Him unless we behave like Him.**

### II. The Social Test: Love (vs. 7-17)

A. Walking in Light and Love (vs. 7-11)

**John 13:34**

2 axioms:

1) When we love others, we see clearly

2) When we don't love others, we stumble in the dark

**Proverbs 4:18-19**

B. 2 Digressions (vs. 12-17)

1. Affirmation (vs. 12-14)

2. Warning (vs. 15-17)

“do not love the world”

3 marks of the world:

lust of the flesh

lust of the eyes

pride of life

**Genesis 3:6**

### III. The Doctrinal Test: belief in Christ (vs. 18-27)

A. Distinction between heretics and genuine Christians (vs. 18-21)

**2 Thessalonians 2:3-5**

1. They oppose Christ

2. They went out from us

3 But you have an anointing (charisma)

a) a seal of ownership and authenticity

**Ephesians 1:13**

b) our guide into the truth of God

**John 16:13**

B. Nature and effect of the heresy (vs. 22-23)

1. Nature – denial that Jesus is the Christ

**The fundamental doctrinal test of the professing Christian concerns his view of the person of Christ.**

2. Effect

C. 2 safeguards against heresy (vs. 24-27)

1. Apostolic Word (vs. 24-26)

**The truth of God's Word doesn't change – we do.**

**2 timothy 4:3-4**

2. Anointing Spirit (vs. 27)