

## **And they are they which testify of me**

Not truly repenting of our sin can motivate us to isolate verses like, 1 John 3:9, as proof of our salvation, but which is disconnected from the whole counsel of the Savior Jesus Christ.

*1 John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.*

Many a professing Christian today will exclaim, “1 John 3:9, IS THE WORD OF GOD! Those who don’t believe this are FALSE PROPHETS!” The problem with this statement is, it is not teaching anything that edifies the gospel, but is simply a rant. According to the scriptures, no single verse in the bible, as each stands alone, can represent the WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD! Otherwise, the three times Satan tempted Jesus in the wilderness with Jesus’ own words, [*scripture*], would have turned out completely different. But Jesus gives us precepts from His word that better clarifies the true gospel:

*Matthew 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

Some might say, “yes, one verse at a time is the word of God; what’s your problem!” However, the Lord gives us a commentary on, Matthew 4:4, by also providing us with, 1 Corinthians 2:13:

*1 Corinthians 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth: comparing spiritual things with spiritual.*

In other words, if the Holy Ghost is truly the one teaching us from His word, then, we shall find ourselves comparing all of God’s word with all of God’s word – comparing spiritual things with spiritual – and without exception! That is, every individual verse has to be compared with every other verse in the bible that relates to the initial verse under examination! There is no other way to PROVE ALL THINGS (1 Thessalonians 5:21). If we’re not going to do the work required to faithfully declare God’s word, God Himself declares, we are likely those who produce hasty fruit, (Isaiah 28):

Of course, what, 1 John 3:9, is saying is absolutely true! If we are born again in our heart and soul, from God's eternal point of view, (Ezekiel 36:24-30), there is no sin that can ever condemn the regenerated Christian. However, while we remain on this earth in the flesh we are still sinners; for God has not yet changed our earthly body which still can lust after sin:

*Romans 7:24, 25 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind, [soul], I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.*

Our first desire always is to be subject to Christ, never that Christ would be subject to us; "not my will but thine be done."

*1 Corinthians 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.*

As a quick note: Isaiah 53 is a very helpful commentary on, Romans 7:25, and, 1 Corinthians 2:16. But on the last day God's elect shall have been born again so that in their regenerated souls they cannot be judged for any sin which Christ fully paid for. However, because while on this earth in our flesh we can still lust after sin, we must be changed into a new spiritual body, which God promises shall happen on the last day:

*1 Corinthians 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. ... 42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: 43 It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body.*

Jesus made it clear to the Pharisee's who thought they were right with God solely based on their knowledge of the scriptures. "Search the scriptures", Jesus said:

*John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

If we are truly born again, this spiritual reality is not made evident by our testimony of what we know from the scriptures, but by a demonstration of the Spirit of Christ in us that is according to the scriptures. Like the Apostle Paul under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost declared:

*1 Corinthians 2:4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:*

To God be all the Glory that is due His Name in Jesus Christ.