

KNOWING CHRIST

I John 2:3-6

Introduction:

- A. Looking back to the first two verses of chapter two we see that we come to know Christ through his propitiation and as by faith we appropriate his righteousness.
- B. In next four verses John says there are some evidences of our knowing Christ.

I . AND HERE BY DO WE KNOW THAT WE KNOW HIM

- A. Know God or Christ.
 - 1. Know that there is a God?
 - 2. Know how to define God as the gnostics tried to do?
 - 3. Know God experimentally?
- B. Know that we know Him.
 - 1. Not a thing of doubt.
 - a. Paul said, "I am persuaded."
 - b. Thomas, "My Lord and my God."
 - c. Job, "I know my redeemer liveth."

II . WE KNOW HIM IF WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS

- A. Paul's first expression was, "Lord, what will you have me to do?"
 - 1. We must know what God's commandments are.
 - a. There are the general commandments of the Bible.
 - b. Specific commandments of each individual's life.
 - 2. We must carry out these commandments.
 - a. Not more propunctionary obedience.

- b. Obedience out of love and a desire to do what Christ would have us do. Seeking to please him in all that I do.
 - (1) "Not my will but thine."

III. I JOHN 2:4

"He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

- A. To fail to carry out his commandments is to tell a lie.
 - 1. To fail to love is to lie.
 - 2. To fail to live Christian life is to lie.
 - 3. To say you know him and fail in keeping his commandments is to live a lie.
- B. Not only does one lie but he became a liar.
 - 1. How much use do you have for a liar?
 - 2. I wonder if many on our church roles are not living an untruth.
 - 3. Does your life say to the world, I know him.

IV. I JOHN 2:5

"But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected; hereby know we that we are in him."

- 1. Perfected = what has reached its term or limit; hence complete, full, wanting nothing, mature, as in fruit.
- A. Hereby we know that we are in Him.
 - 1. To be in him is to be in his love.
 - 2. To be in him is to have him as protector.
 - a. Brother.
 - b. Confider.

- c. Helper.
- 3. To be in him is to have his power in our life.
 - a. Power to persuade men.
 - b. Power to overcome.
- B. The love of God perfected in those who keep his commandments.
 - 1. Our love never becomes perfect.
 - 2. But we can become more like the master. This is sanctification.
 - 3. The more we become like him the more we are convinced that we know him.
 - 4. Nothing puts doubts in a Christian's mind as being out of his will. Trying to live of the world instead of in the world.

V. I JOHN 2:6

"He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk even as he walked."

- 1. Ought = to owe, to be indebted; to be bound or obligated to the performance of a duty.
- A. Walk as he walked.
 - 1. Jesus a walker, not a flash in the pan. We have seen those who start out like on a race and then slow and stop.
 - 2. He steadfastly set his face toward Jerusalem.
 - 3. Nothing could pull him from God's will. Neither heat, nor cold, ridicule or scorn, or even the death on the cross - walking with a purpose.
 - 4. Walking in God with that inward repose.
 - a. David had this when he wrote:
"Yea, tho I walk through the valley of the shadow of death."
 - b. Paul and Silas had this when they rejoiced in jail.

- B. Walk as seeing all things in their relation to God.
 - 1. What is God's point of view?
 - 2. What would God do in this case?

- C. Walk submitting all our life unto him.
 - 1. All of our time, talent, treasure.

- D. Walk in unity with God.
 - 1. His desire becomes ours.
 - 2. As a married couple becomes one flesh.

- E. Walk in love.
 - 1. Love God.
 - 2. Love neighbor as thyself.
 - 3. I Cor. 13:4-8.

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth; but whether there be prophecies they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away."

- F. Do you know him? Do you know that you know him?

