

How to Know if you are a Real or Fake Christian

With Bishop Ronald K. Powell



1-“Our Motive & Goal”

1 Corinthians 11:31 Easy-to-Read Version

- ³¹ But if we judged ourselves in the right way,
then God would not judge us.



2- “Things Jesus Said” *John 8:12 New International Version*

- 12 When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”
- What does Follow Mean?



3-What do you think it means that “God is light?”

- 1 John 1:5 English Standard Version (ESV)
- ***Walking in the Light***
- ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you,
- ***that God is light,***
- ***and in him is no darkness at all.***



4- “Conformed or Transformed”

- Romans 12:2 Amplified Bible (AMP)
- ² And do not be conformed to this world [*any longer with its superficial values and customs*], but be ^[1]transformed and progressively changed [*as you mature spiritually*] by the renewing of your mind [*focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes*], so that you may prove [*for yourselves*] what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [*in His plan and purpose for you*].
- Footnotes:
 1. Romans 12:2 From the Greek word meaning “metamorphosis.” Refers to the process that leads to an outward, permanent change.

5-Fake Christians Walk in Darkness

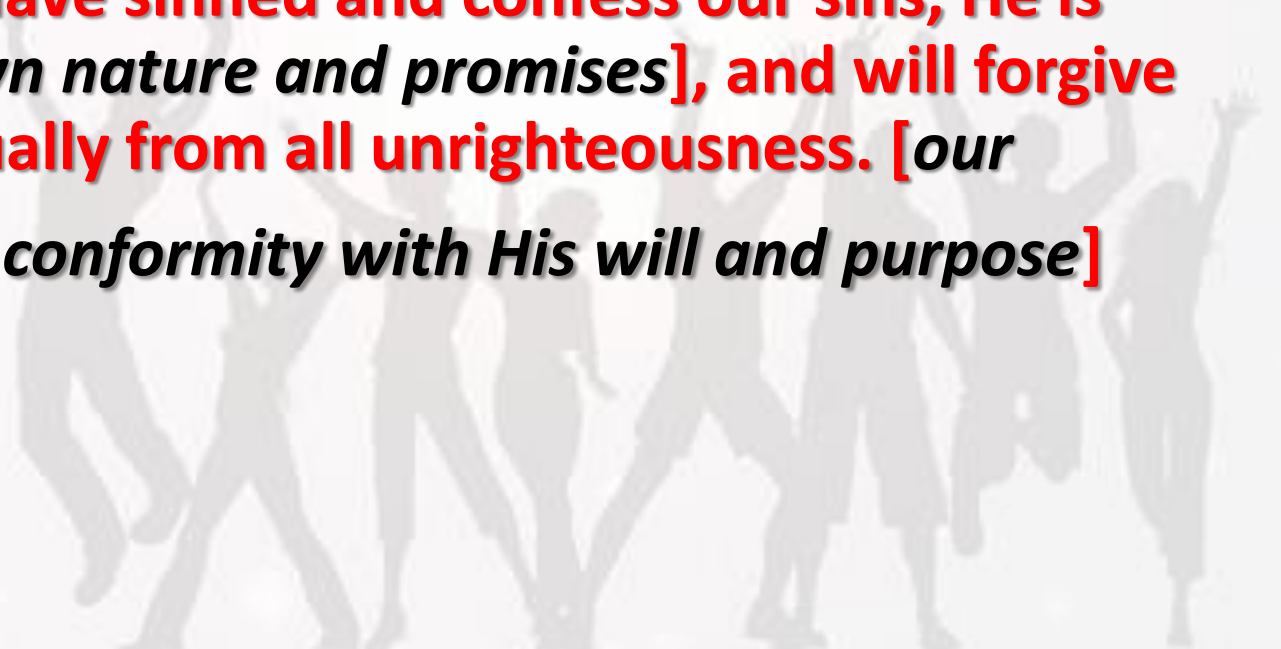
- 1 John 1:5-10 Amplified Bible (AMP)
- God Is Light
- ***⁵ This is the message [of God's promised revelation] which we have heard from Him and now announce to you, that God is Light [He is holy, His message is truthful, He is perfect in righteousness], and in Him there is no darkness at all [no sin, no wickedness, no imperfection].***

5-Fake Christians Walk in Darkness

- 1 John 1:5-10 Amplified Bible (AMP)
- **6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness [of sin], we lie and do not practice the truth;**
- **7 but if we [really] walk in the Light [that is, live each and every day in conformity with the precepts of God], as He Himself is in the Light, we have [true, unbroken] fellowship with one another [He with us, and we with Him], and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin [by erasing the stain of sin, keeping us cleansed from sin in all its forms and manifestations].**

5-Fake Christians Walk in Darkness

- **1 John 1:5-10 Amplified Bible (AMP)**
- **8 If we say we have no sin** *[refusing to admit that we are sinners]*, **we delude ourselves and the truth is not in us.** *[His word does not live in our hearts.]*
- **9 If we** *[freely]* **admit that we have sinned and confess our sins, He is faithful and just** *[true to His own nature and promises]*, **and will forgive our sins and cleanse us continually from all unrighteousness.** *[our wrongdoing, everything not in conformity with His will and purpose]*



5-Fake Christians Walk in Darkness

- 1 John 1:5-10 Amplified Bible (AMP)
- **10 If we say that we have not sinned [refusing to admit acts of sin], we make Him [out to be] a liar [by contradicting Him] and His word is not in us.**



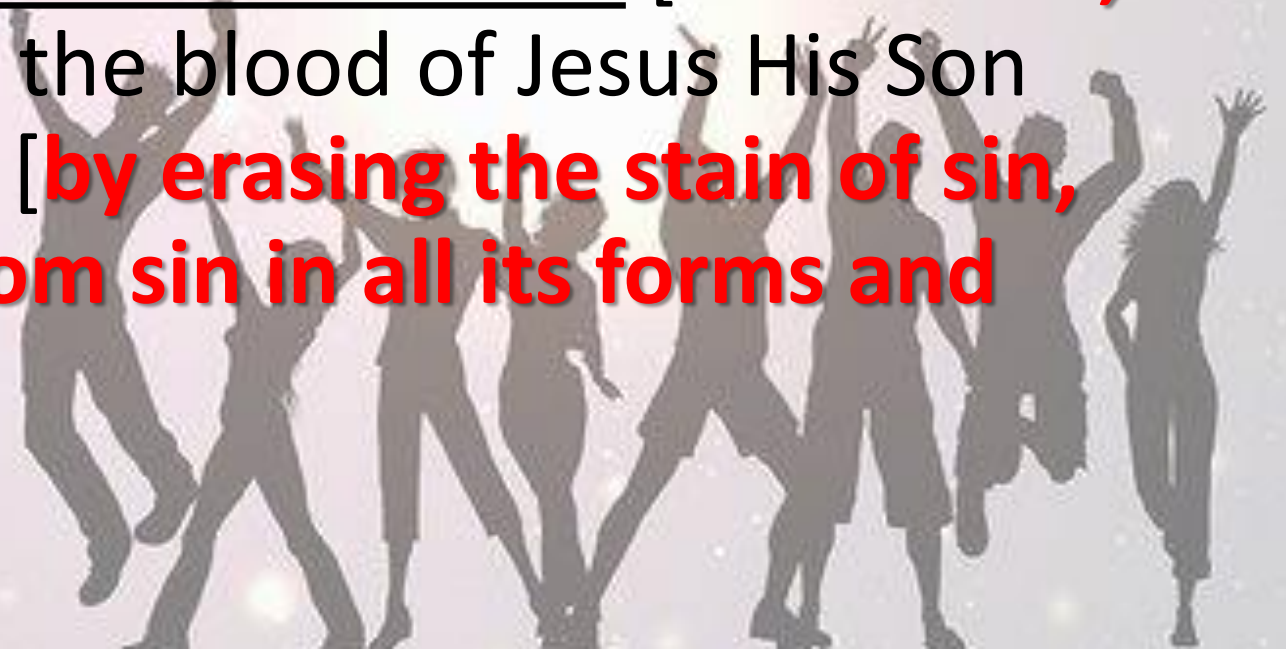
6-What does it mean to walk in darkness?

- **1 John 1:6 Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)**
- ⁶ So if we say that we share in life with God, but we continue living in darkness, we are liars, who don't follow the truth.



7-What does 1 John 1:5–10 say happens if we walk in the light?

- 7 but if we [**really**] walk in the Light [**that is, live each and every day in conformity with the precepts of God**], as He Himself is in the Light, we have [**true, unbroken**] fellowship with one another [**He with us, and we with Him**], and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin [**by erasing the stain of sin, keeping us cleansed from sin in all its forms and manifestations**].



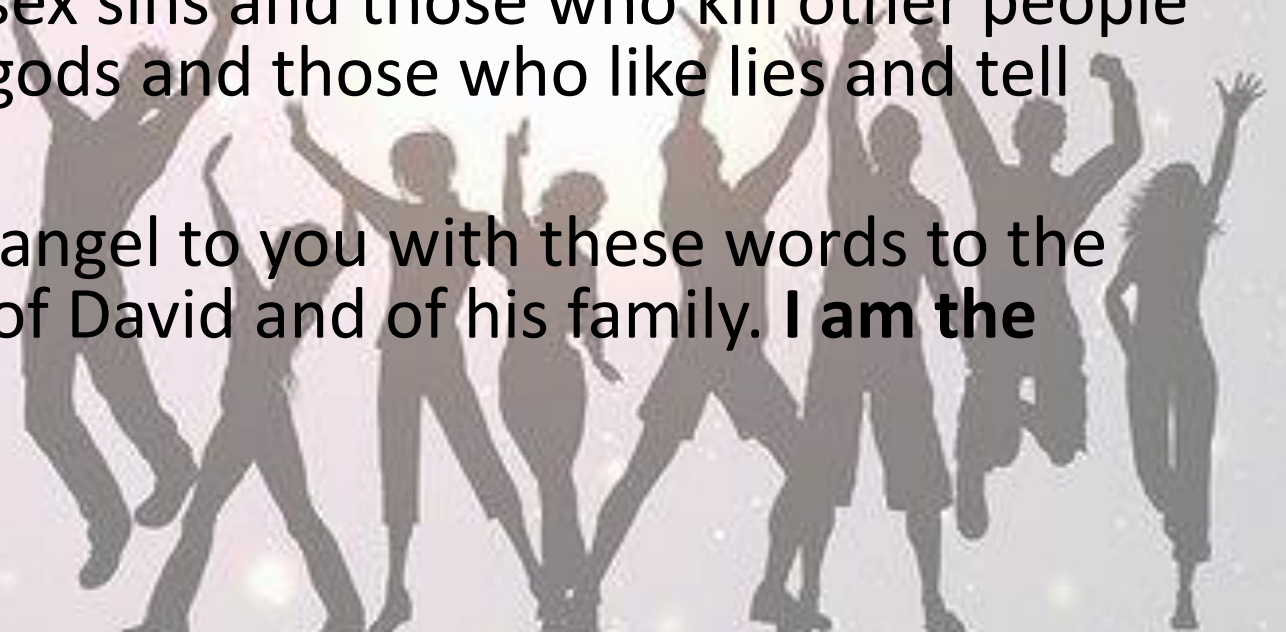
8-What does 1 John 1:6,10 say happens if we walk in The darkness?

- 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not **practice** the truth.
- ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and **his word is not in us.**



Revelation 22:14-16 New Life Version (NLT)

- ¹⁴ Those who wash their clothes clean are happy (**who are washed by the blood of the Lamb**). They will have the right to go into the city through the gates. They will have the right to eat the fruit of the tree of life.
- ¹⁵ **Outside the city are the dogs.** They are people who follow witchcraft and those who do sex sins and those who kill other people and those who worship false gods and those who like lies and tell them.
- ¹⁶ **“I am Jesus.** I have sent My angel to you with these words to the churches. I am the beginning of David and of his family. **I am the bright Morning Star.”**



Revelation 2:1-7

- 1“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.
- 2“‘I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false.
- 3I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary.
- 4**But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.**
5Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, **and do the works you did at first.** If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.
- 6Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.
- 7He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.**

Closing & Prayer

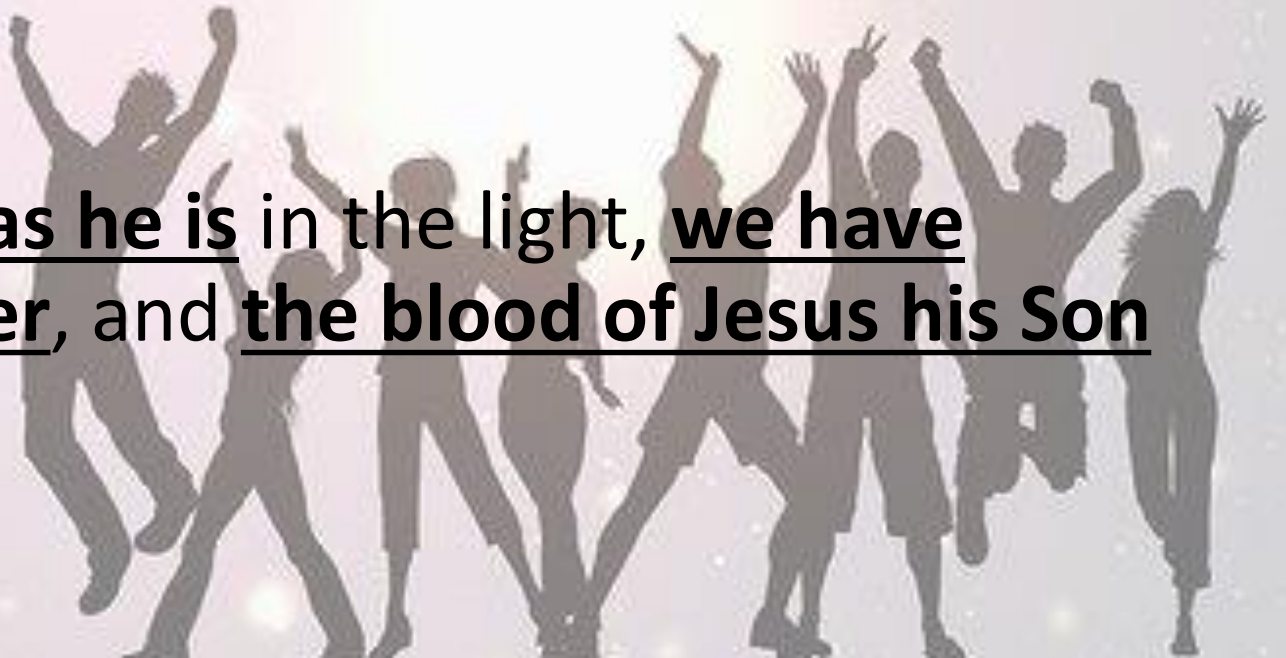
- ***Which are you walking in? Darkness or Light***

- **1 Corinthians 11:31 Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)**

³¹ But if we judged ourselves in the right way, then God would not judge us.

- **1 John 1:7 Amplified**

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.



Next Week – How do I walk in Light?

