**Blessed Assurance**

*1 Jn 2:3-6*

2 Realities of an Authentic Faith

**I. Believers can know that faith is genuine**

**v. 3a**—*By this we know that we have come to know Him…*

A. Reasons for writing (Purpose clause: “so that”)

1. That you might have fellowship with the Father, and His Son and with us – 1:3

2. That your joy might be full – 1:4

3. That you may know that you have eternal life – 5:13

B. Tests for authenticity

1. **1 John 2:6**—The *one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.*

2. **1 John 2:9**—*The one who says he is in the light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now. The one who loves his brother abides in the light...*

3. **1 John 2:15**—*Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*

4. **1 John 2:29**—*If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him.*

C. Reason it’s important

1. Uncertainty of one’s eternal security

2. Confusion on how one gets to heaven

3. Major difference between “professor” and “possessor”

4. Assurance develops fellowship with confidence

5. Scripture provides assurance in several of ways

a) historically

b) theologically

c) experientially

In a sense, it starts in the mind, it moves to the emotions, senses, and then it goes to the life

6. People will by nature mess it up

**II. Believers keep His commands**

**v. 3b**—…*if we keep His commandments.*

A. What commandments?

**1 John 2:4**—*The one who says, “I have come to know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him…*

B. What does “keep” mean?

**2 Samuel 6:7**—*And the anger of the LORD burned against Uzzah, and God struck him down there for his irreverence; and he died there by the ark of God.*

C. How does grace fit in?

**Ephesians 2:8-10**—*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*