

“The Test of a True Follower of Christ, Part 2”  
**John 14:15-24**

**I. Those who know Jesus, will live according to His Word (vs. 15-22).**

- A. They will have a love for Jesus that will be shown by obedience to the truth.
- B. They are given the Holy Spirit to guide them in truth.
- C. They are given the gift of a faithful relationship with Jesus and the Father.

(Matthew 11:27; John 1:11-13; 16:13-15; Galatians 4:4-7; Ephesians 2:1-7)

**II. Obedience to Jesus’ word is the test of whether a person truly is following Christ (vs. 23-24).**

- A. Those who love Jesus will receive and keep His word.
- B. Those who do not love Jesus will reject and disregard His word.

(Matthew 7:15-21; 10:2-3; Luke 6:13-16; 1 John 4:1-4)

**Scripture References and Notes**

Matthew 11:27

All things have been handed over to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*.

John 1:11-13

<sup>11</sup> He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. <sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Galatians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, <sup>5</sup> so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup> Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup> Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God.

Ephesians 2:1-7

<sup>1</sup> And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of

disobedience. <sup>3</sup> Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest. <sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Luke 6:13-16

<sup>13</sup> And when day came, He called His disciples to Him and chose twelve of them, whom He also named as apostles: <sup>14</sup> Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James and John; and Philip and Bartholomew; <sup>15</sup> and Matthew and Thomas; James *the son* of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot; <sup>16</sup> Judas *the son* of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Matthew 10:2-3

<sup>2</sup> Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; and James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; <sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup> Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed Him.

1 John 4:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup> By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; <sup>3</sup> and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the *spirit* of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world. <sup>4</sup> You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. <sup>5</sup> They are from the world; therefore they speak *as* from the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup> We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Matthew 7:15-23

<sup>15</sup> “Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup> You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn *bushes* nor figs from thistles, are they? <sup>17</sup> So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. <sup>18</sup> A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. <sup>19</sup> Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup> So then, you will know them by their fruits. <sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”

## keep

- τηρέω (téreó)
- to watch over, to guard
- I keep, guard, observe, watch over.

Genesis 26:4-5

<sup>4</sup> I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; <sup>5</sup> because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws.”

Leviticus 22:31

So you shall keep My commandments, and do them; I am the LORD.

Leviticus 26:2-4

<sup>2</sup> You shall keep My sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary; I am the LORD. <sup>3</sup> If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments so as to carry them out, <sup>4</sup> then I shall give you rains in their season, so that the land will yield its produce and the trees of the field will bear their fruit.

Numbers 15:37-41

<sup>37</sup> The LORD also spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>38</sup> “Speak to the sons of Israel, and tell them that they shall make for themselves tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and that they shall put on the tassel of each corner a cord of blue. <sup>39</sup> It shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the LORD, so as to do them and not follow after your own heart and your own eyes, after which you played the harlot, <sup>40</sup> so that you may remember to do all My commandments and be holy to your God. <sup>41</sup> I am the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt to be your God; I am the LORD your God.”

Deuteronomy 4:1-4

<sup>1</sup> “Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I am teaching you to perform, so that you may live and go in and take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. <sup>2</sup> You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. <sup>3</sup> Your eyes have seen what the LORD has done in the case of Baal-peor, for all the men who followed Baal-peor, the LORD your God has destroyed them from among you. <sup>4</sup> But you who held fast to the LORD your God are alive today, every one of you.

Deuteronomy 5:9-10

<sup>9</sup> You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, and on the third and the fourth *generations* of those who hate Me, <sup>10</sup> but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Deuteronomy 7:9-10

<sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments; <sup>10</sup> but repays those who hate Him to their faces, to destroy them; He will not delay with him who hates Him, He will repay him to his face.

Deuteronomy 8:5-6

<sup>5</sup> Thus you are to know in your heart that the LORD your God was disciplining you just as a man disciplines his son. <sup>6</sup> Therefore, you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to fear Him.

Deuteronomy 11:1

“You shall therefore love the LORD your God, and always keep His charge, His statutes, His ordinances, and His commandments.

Deuteronomy 11:13

“It shall come about, if you listen obediently to my commandments which I am commanding you today, to love the LORD your God and to serve Him with all your heart and all your soul...

Deuteronomy 19:9

...if you carefully observe all this commandment which I command you today, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in His ways always—then you shall add three more cities for yourself, besides these three.

Deuteronomy 26:16

<sup>16</sup>“This day the LORD your God commands you to do these statutes and ordinances. You shall therefore be careful to do them with all your heart and with all your soul. <sup>17</sup>You have today declared the LORD to be your God, and that you would walk in His ways and keep His statutes, His commandments and His ordinances, and listen to His voice. <sup>18</sup>The LORD has today declared you to be His people, a treasured possession, as He promised you, and that you should keep all His commandments; <sup>19</sup>and that He will set you high above all nations which He has made, for praise, fame, and honor; and that you shall be a consecrated people to the LORD your God, as He has spoken.”

Deuteronomy 30:6-10

<sup>6</sup>“Moreover the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you may live. <sup>7</sup>The LORD your God will inflict all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you. <sup>8</sup>And you shall again obey the LORD, and observe all His commandments which I command you today. <sup>9</sup>Then the LORD your God will prosper you abundantly in all the work of your hand, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your cattle and in the produce of your ground, for the LORD will again rejoice over you for good, just as He rejoiced over your fathers; <sup>10</sup>if you obey the LORD your God to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this book of the law, if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and soul.

Deuteronomy 30:15-16

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity; <sup>16</sup>in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that you may live and multiply, and that the LORD your God may bless you in the land where you are entering to possess it.

Joshua 22:5

Only be very careful to observe the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God and walk in all His ways and keep His commandments and hold fast to Him and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

1 Kings 8:61

Let your heart therefore be wholly devoted to the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as at this day.”

Nehemiah 9:16

“But they, our fathers, acted arrogantly; They became stubborn and would not listen to Your commandments.

Job 23:11-12

<sup>11</sup>“My foot has held fast to His path; I have kept His way and not turned aside.

<sup>12</sup>“I have not departed from the command of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.

Psalm 112:1

Praise the LORD! How blessed is the man who fears the LORD, Who greatly delights in His commandments.

Psalm 119:47-48

<sup>47</sup>I shall delight in Your commandments, Which I love. <sup>48</sup>And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments, Which I love; And I will meditate on Your statutes.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

<sup>13</sup> The conclusion, when all has been heard, *is*: fear God and keep His commandments, because this *applies to* every person. <sup>14</sup> For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.

Daniel 9:4-5

<sup>4</sup> I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed and said, “Alas, O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments, <sup>5</sup> we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances.

Matthew 5:17-19

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others *to do* the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches *them*, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

John 14:15

“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

John 14:21

He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.”

John 14:23-24

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. <sup>24</sup> He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.

John 15:10

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

John 15:14

You are My friends if you do what I command you.

1 Corinthians 7:19

Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but *what matters is* the keeping of the commandments of God.

1 John 2:3-6

<sup>3</sup> By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. <sup>4</sup> 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; <sup>5</sup> but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: <sup>6</sup> the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

1 John 3:21-24

<sup>21</sup> Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; <sup>22</sup> and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight. <sup>23</sup> This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. <sup>24</sup> The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

1 John 5:2-3

<sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.

Revelation 12:17

So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

Revelation 14:12

Here is the perseverance of the saints who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.