

One or the Other

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: I John 3:10.

B. Theme: maintaining righteousness in a wicked world.

II. The secret of maintaining righteousness is having the Righteous One live in a person.

A. Everyone who does right is born of Him.

B. There is a great mystery to life. What we shall be has not appeared yet.

III. Humanity is divided into two classes: the children of the devil and the children of God.

A. Being children of the devil means one reflects his characteristics.

B. Being children of God means one reflects His characteristics.

C. Man is a vessel—we were made for God.

D. Because of the fall, man is expressing the perverted life of the devil.

1. We were born children of the devil because we are descendents of Adam who sold himself to the devil.

2. Only the kingdom of God frees one from the kingdom of the devil.

E. Becoming children of God is an act of God.

1. This life cannot be lost.

2. However, many people think they are children of God when they are not.

a. Many “convert” for temporary comfort—this is not a true conversion.

b. One can tell whether conversion is real by whether a person loves and begins to depart from sin.

c. The one who is born again cannot continue in sin because the life in him says, “No!”

d. There are certain things you cannot do or say and be a child of God.

e. Admission has been secretly gained into the church by the ungodly that pervert God’s grace into licentiousness. (Jude)

Application questions:

1. Does being a child of God mean that our works earn us a place before God?

2. Are all conversions real? Explain.

3. How might one assess his own status before God by looking at his life? What are good indicators that one is part of God's kingdom?
