

Title: Prove it!

Text: 1 John 2:1-14

Target: You are not sinless, but you have been called to sin less.

- I. **The Establishment of our Salvation:** *"My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin,"* (Vs.1a)
 - A. **Jesus is our Advocate:** *"...we have an advocate with the Father,"* (Vs.1b)
 - B. **Jesus is our Acceptance:** *"Jesus Christ the righteous."* (Vs.1c)
 - C. **Jesus is our Atonement:** *"He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world."* (Vs. 2)
- II. **The Evidence of our Salvation:** *"And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments."* (Vs. 3)
 - A. **Faith in Jesus for Salvation:** *"Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,"* (Vs. 4)
 - B. **Application of the Scriptures:** *"...but whoever keeps his word,"* (Vs. 5a)
 - C. **Changed by Sanctification:** *"...the love of God is perfected."* (Vs.5b)
 - D. **Testimony of Surrender:** *"whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked."* (Vs. 6)
- III. **The Examination of our Salvation:** *"The old commandment is the word that you have heard. At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining."* (Vs. 7b-8)
 - A. **Walk in the Light:**
 1. **Old Command:** *"You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD"* (Leviticus 19:18)
 2. **New Command:** *"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* (John 13:34-35)
 - B. **Blinded by Darkness:** *"Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness."* (Vs. 9)
 1. **Consumed with Hatred:** *"But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness,"* (Vs. 11a)
 2. **Constrained by Revenge:** *"and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes."* (Vs. 11b)
- IV. **The Encouragement in our Salvation:** *"I am writing you, little children,"* (Vs. 12a)
 - A. **You have been Forgiven:** *"your sins are forgiven for his name's sake."* (Vs. 12b)
 - B. **You have a Father:** *"I write to you, children, because you know the Father."* (Vs. 13)
 - C. **You have Freedom:** *"you have overcome the evil one."* (2x) (Vs. 13,14)

Takeaway: Your salvation is more than a decision in the past, it is a direction in the present.