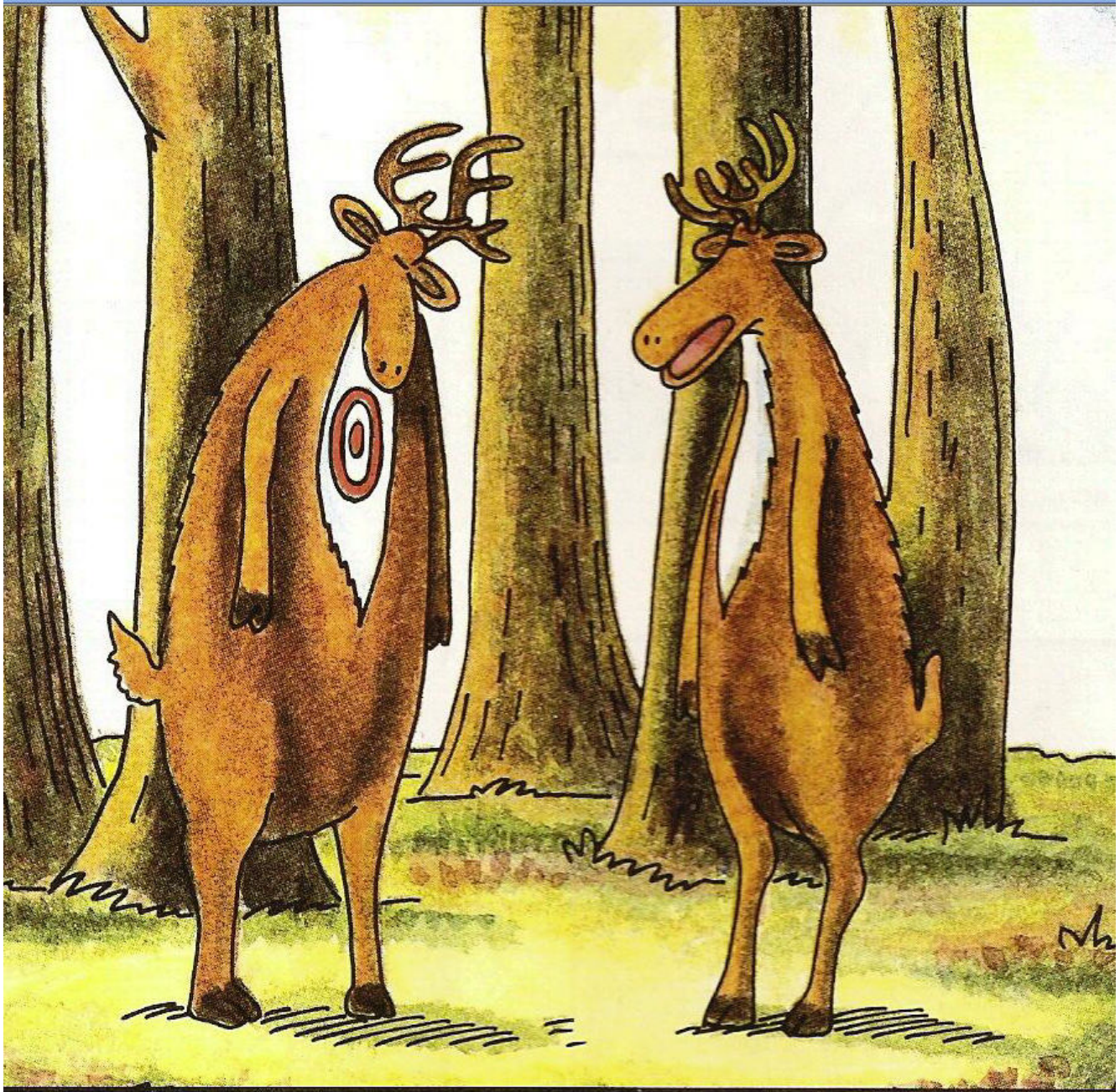


“Biblical Birthmarks Are Obvious”

1 John 2:29 – 3:10

November 3, 2013

Intro: Today we’re going to learn about biblical birthmarks...



“Bummer of a birthmark, Hal.”

Big Idea: Children will BE & SEE the obvious!

Preview Pillars:

1. Some Children Abide (2:28)
2. Some Children Obey (2:29 - 3:3)
3. Some Children Deceive (3:4 - 3:9)
4. All Children Reveal (3:10)

T/S: Illustration: **"Blocks"**

- simply piling up a weighty mess?

OR

- building blocks of intentional disciples?

1 John 1:1 - 2:27 = **Basis for koinonia...**
= *abiding in God's LIGHT*

1 John 2:28ff = **Behavior from koinonia...**
= *abiding in God's LOVE*

Characteristics of koinonia

Consequences of (or the lack of) koinonia

1st John “BLOCKS” thus far: An Exegetical Flow...

- a. 1:1-2 = We KNOW this TRUTH... Jesus is the eternal Light!
- b. 1:3-4 = Real LOVE... is “koinonia,” vertically & horizontally
v.3 = *We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.*
- c. 1:5,7,9 = Proclaiming the “who & how-to” of the good news!
- d. 1:6,8,10 = Warnings are declared... Somebody’s lying!
- e. 2:1-2 = Don’t sin... Don’t worry... Don’t forget!
- f. 2:3-6 = **Beware the Liars!** = *We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. **4**Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. **5**But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: **6**Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.*
- i. 2:15-17 = *Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.*
- j. 2:18-27 = Watch out! ...for your old antichrist friends who left

I. 1 John 2:28 = Some Children ABIDE

k. **2:28** = Confident assurance comes by abiding vs. shrinking

*“And now little children, **abide in Him** so that when He appears we may have confidence and NOT shrink (back) from Him in shame, at His coming.”*

Abiding = BE-ing

- Vertically
 - Horizontally
 - Joyfully
 - Prayerfully
 - Obediently
 - SUPERNATURALLY!

Children of God

Children of Satan

2:28	Abide (in Christ alone) Confident (into eternity)	Disconnected & disobedient... Will shrink back in shame
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NOTE: The final outcome of “the day of the Lord” will be that “***the arrogance of man will be brought low and the pride of men humbled; the Lord alone will be exalted in that day***” ([Isaiah 2:17](#)).

T/S: When God's Word speaks about "**abiding**" (whether it's John or Jesus), the message is **ALWAYS** underscoring **3 points**:

1. **Authentic Christianity**

2. **Healthy Christianity**

3. **Reproducing Christianity**

As Jesus said: "*Seek first the kingdom of God
 AND
 His righteousness...*"

II. 1 John 2:29-3:3 = Some Children OBEY

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

*** *If*

*** *Know*

*** *Righteous (vs. Religious)*

*** *Practices*

*** *Born of Him*

*** Behavior begins with birth!

*** Connect “*born of Him*” with **John 3**... “born again”

“Righteous behavior ALWAYS begins with re-birth.” - JDP

Illustration:

Ask people to demonstrate that they "know" something; while simultaneously proving that “knowing *about* something” means NOTHING when it comes to actually doing/BE-ing that very thing!

- ie. brain surgery..
- ie. hit a golf ball like Tiger Woods...

- ie. **“Just because you can rightly spell ‘righteous’... it does not mean you are rightly living righteously.”** - JDP

Children of God

Children of Satan

2:29

KNOW He is righteous
KNOW all His are righteous

Don't know the righteous God
Think holiness is optional...

John 3:21 = “But he **who practices** the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God.”

3:1 = See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called **children of God**; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

Family of God

Romans 8:14-17 = For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. **15**The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. **f** And by him we cry, “Abba, **g** Father.” **16**The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. **17**Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:1	In AWE of God’s love	Takes God’s love for granted
	See God’s love as gift of grace	Takes God’s grace for granted
	God calls them His children	Call themselves God’s children
	We truly are His children	Are actually Satan’s children
	The world does not know us	Known & embraced by world

3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:2	“Beloved”	Be warned...
	New children of God	Unchanged children of Satan
	We know Jesus is coming	May also expect His return (fact vs faith)
	“We will see & be like Him”	Will be going south w/ Satan

3:3 *And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*

“A believer’s behavior is purely purifying.” - JDP

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:3	Our hope is fixed on Jesus	False hope is found in self...
	Committed to Christ-likeness	Compromised easy-believism

“Biblical Christians commit to living perpetually purifying, Christ-like lives. Therein, **belief & behavior** are also known as **faith & fruit**... seen together, spiritually speaking, these are twin theological truths.” - JDP

To those who would minimize human response & responsibility:

1 Timothy 5:22 = *“...keep yourself pure (free from sin).”*

James 4:8 = *“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”*

1 Peter 1:22 & **2 Corinthians 7:1**

III. 1 John 3:4-9 = Some Children Deceive

3:4 = *Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness ; and sin is lawlessness.*

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:4 “Practices” righteousness Practices sin & lawlessness

KEY to UNDERSTANDING:

Focus on differences between:

- a. **Committing a sin**
- vs**
- b. **Continuing in sin**

Quote Life Application notes:

“There is a difference between committing a sin and continuing in sin. Even the most faithful believers sometimes commit sins, but they do not cherish a particular sin or continually choose to commit it. A believer who commits a sin can repent, confess it, and find forgiveness. A person who continues to sin, by contrast, is not sorry for what he or she is doing. Thus, this person never confesses or repents, and therefore, never receives forgiveness. Such a person is in opposition to God, **NO MATTER WHAT RELIGIOUS CLAIMS HE OR SHE MAKES.**”

How to STOP Sin Patterns (a.k.a. “Practice”)

S = *SPIRIT*

T = *TRUTH*

O = *OBEY*

P = *PEOPLE* (of God)

3:5 *You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.*

1 Peter 1:17-21 = *Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.*

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:5 Jesus came to forgive sins

Christ came to condone sin

Strives for sinlessness

Marginalizes holiness

3:6 *No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows (GINOSKO) Him.*

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:6 Practices "abiding in Him"

Practices unrepented sin

Christ changed their life

Don't really KNOW Christ yet

3:7 *Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous;*

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:7	Identified by God as His...	Are still children of Satan
	Shrewd...; fighting deceit	Is deceived and/or deceiving
	Practices righteousness	May practice religion (only)

3:8 *the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.*

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:8	Practices R & is of God Destroys the devil's work	Practices sin; is "of the devil" Spreads the devil's work
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3:9 *No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.*

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:9

“Is born of God”
Fights against sin
Seed of God abiding inside
Cannot live a pattern of sin

God-hating child of the devil
Practices patterns of sin
Spreads the seed of Satan...
Complacent in sin practices

IV. 1 John 3:10 = ALL Children Reveal

3:10 *By this the children of God (Tek-non ThA-os) and the children of the devil (Tek-non dE-ob-O-los) are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.*

Children of God

Children of Satan

3:10

Is an obvious child of God:
- Practicing righteousness
- Practicing “koinonia”

Is an obvious child of Satan:
- Practicing unrighteousness
- Practicing not loving others

God’s “obvious children”:

Great Commandments

LOVE the LORD your God with ALL...

...your HEART

...your SOUL

...your MIND

...and STRENGTH

LOVE your NEIGHBOR as yourself.

Great Commission

Follow Christ & Fish for men (Find the Lost, Grow the Found)

Go make disciples...

...TEACHING them to OBEY

...EVERYTHING Jesus COMMANDED

Spirit-empowered witnesses of Jesus the Christ!

Beatitudes

Poor in Spirit

Mourn

Meek

Hunger/Thirst after Righteousness

Merciful

Pure in Heart

Peace-makers

Persecuted

Salt & Light (Matthew 5)

Zealous Servant (see the Parable of the Talents)

The Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12)

The “FEW” on the “NARROW path” (Matthew 7:13-14)

“Good Trees” proven by “good fruit” (Matthew 7:15-20)

Build on the Rock vs. the sand (Matthew 7:24-27)

Fruit of the Spirit:

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-control

Forgives others as Christ forgave them

Wearing the Full Armor of God

Belt of Truth

Breastplate of Righteousness

Footgear of Gospel Peace

Shield of Faith

Helmet of Salvation

Sword of the Spirit (Bible)

KOINONIA!

John 17:21 = *I pray that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.*

They will know... by your love for one another!

***** Ephesians 4:14 – 5:11** (*hear the truth again*)

17So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. **18**They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. **19**Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.

20That, however, is not the way of life you learned **21**when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the

truth that is in Jesus. **22**You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; **23**to be made new in the attitude of your minds; **24**and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

31Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. **32**Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

5:1 Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children **2**and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

5For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—for such a person is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. **6**Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. **7**Therefore do not be partners with them.

8For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light **10**and find out what pleases the Lord. **11**Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

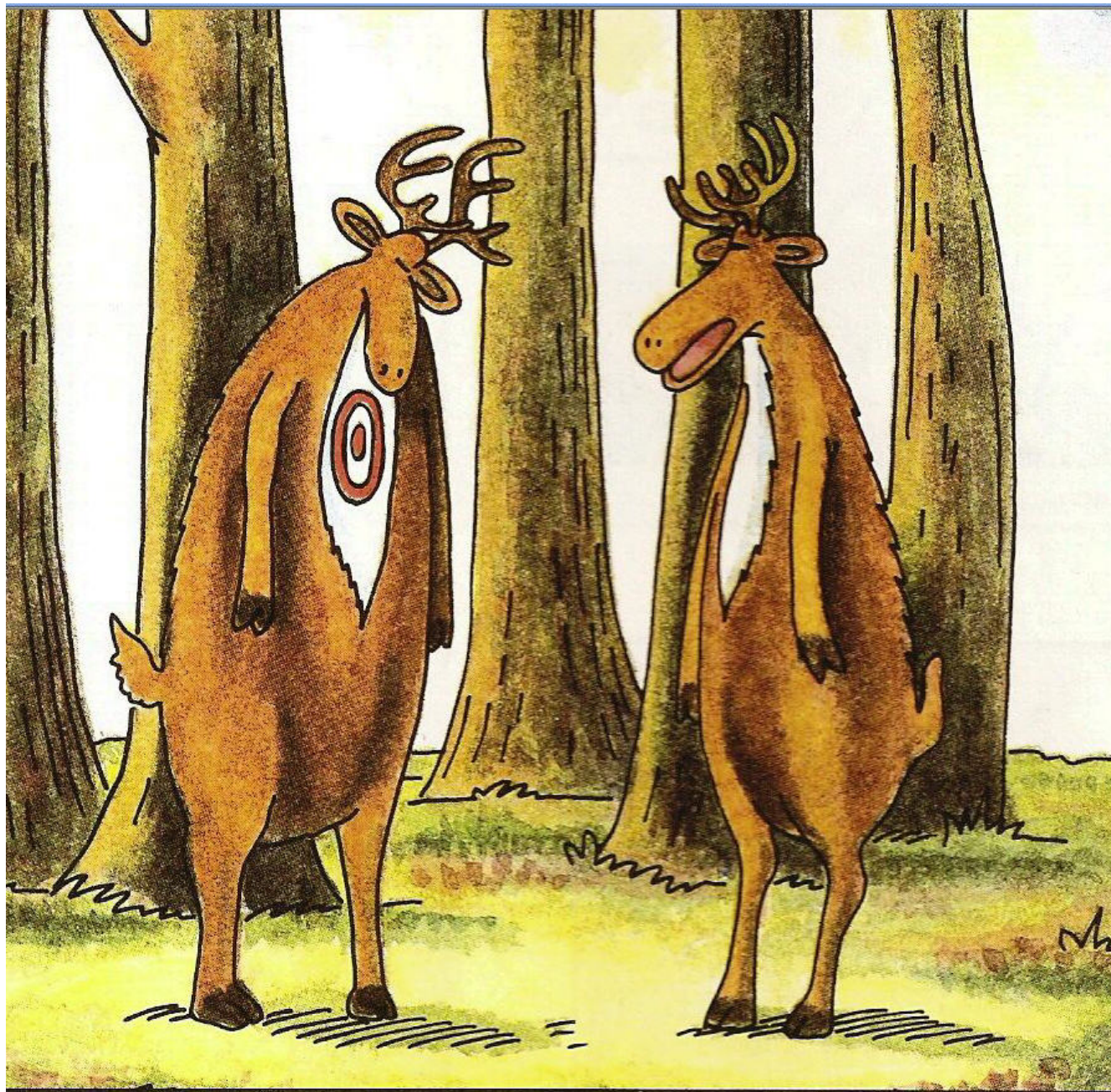
NOTE:

Children of the Devil = ALL others (even the look-a-likes)

CLOSE:

What do your birthmarks look like?
TIME TALENT

Be sure to look at your:
TREASURE



“Bummer of a birthmark, Hal.”

*Show me your relationship with the world...
and I'll show you your “D/daddy!”*

Your life's birthmarks make your love... obvious! -JDP

Let's PRAY