

Review:

1. Test 1 – Have I experienced godly sorrow that produces repentance?
  - a. 2 Cor 7:8-10
  - b. James 1:15
2. Test 2 – Has my repentance produced fruit?
  - a. Luke 3:8-11
  - b. Ephesians 4
  - c. James 2
  - d. Parable of Unclean House
3. Test 3 – Has my faith persevered through trials?

Before I reveal the fourth test, let me share something with you about the apostle John. He wrote his Gospel to bring unbelievers to faith...

**John 20:31 these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.**

Then he wrote 1 John to give believers confidence that they possess eternal life...

**1 John 5:13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.**

He said he wrote this letter to **[those] who believe in the name of the Son of God**, or in other words, to believers. And he said his purpose was to make sure they **know [they] have eternal life**.

During this discussion of salvation we could start to wonder if God wants us questioning whether we're saved. This verse makes it clear that God wants you to **know that you have eternal life**. Salvation isn't something God wants us walking around doubting. But it is something He wants us to test or examine as we've discussed.

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If you're familiar with John's letter it almost sounds like he had the opposite purpose: make people question their salvation. John writes so strongly – as we'll see – that it almost seems like he's trying to make people think they're NOT saved.

But he said he had the opposite purpose in mind. He wanted people convinced of their salvation. This is pertinent to us considering the topic of our series, and I hope these messages accomplish the same purpose in your life that John's letter accomplished for his readers. Assuming you're saved, my desire is you would give yourself these tests and be more convinced of your salvation. If you're unsaved, then obviously I hope these tests have the opposite effect.

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So our fourth test...

**Test 4: Is my life characterized by obedience?**