Children of God and Children of the Devil

Scripture: 1 John 3:9-10

Series: Doctrine & Devotion: A Study in the First Epistle of John

Sunday, August 2, 2015



Overview

We're either a child of God by grace (marked by love and righteousness) or a child of the devil by nature (marked by lack of conviction and repentance). Understanding that we are children of God by God's grace leads us to turn from self righteousness and to love our neighbor.

Corraborating Texts

John 3:3, Ezekiel 36:26-27, 1 Timothy 6:11; 2 Peter 1:5

Discussion Questions

- 1. Have you heard the common assertion, "We're all children of God?" Why is this view so popular today? Why is it so dangerous? How does 1 John 3:9–10 challenge this view?
- 2. What are some ways the Bible compartmentalizes humanity? [wise/foolish; alive/dead; etc.]
- 3. What are the marks of a child of the devil? [lack of conviction; enmity toward the church]
- 4. Can a non-Christian express and embrace regret and reformation? How is this different from conviction and repentance?
- 5. What are the marks of a child of God? [pursuit of righteousness and love for God and neighbor]
- 6. We know (hopefully) that the goal of Christianity is not performance. What *is* the goal? [knowing and loving our creator God, and then a gospel-rich reaction to that relationship]
- 7. What are some tangible ways of loving our neighbors? Who are some neighbors in your life that God is calling you to love?