

464 How Can I Know That I Am Born Again?
(Scriptural Tests of the New Birth)

I. The Witness of the Spirit. (Rom. 8:15-16)

- A. Spiritual "instinct"
- B. Something within us cries out "Abba, Father" - Gal. 4:6
- C. Inward assurance and peace.

II. The Taste Test. 1 Peter. 2:2; 1 Jno. 10:9

- A. Every living creature has natural hunger for food
- B. The child of God has desire for spiritual food -
- C. Sheep go astray when they get "foot & mouth disease."

III. The Love Test. 1 Jno. 3:13-14

- A. We love the brethren - love His children.
- B. 1 Jno. 5:1 - love God - love His children.
- C. John 13:34-35 - new commandment - love one another.

IV. The Sin Test. 1 Jno. 3:9

- A. Gr. tense expresses continuation.
- B. Child of God has principle (seed) of godly life within.
- C. "Cannot" is a moral, not a physical, impossibility.

V. The World Test. - 1 Jno. 5:4

- A. John has some things pretty hard for hypocritical professors to explain.
- B. Teaches conversely that one not overcoming the world is not born of God -
- C. If any man love the world the love of the father is not in him. 1 Jno. 2:15

VI. The Persecution Test. 2 Tim. 3:10-12; 1 Jno. 15:20

- A. A holy life is a rebuke to sin & hypocrisy.
- B. They who persecuted Christ persecute His followers
- C. Jer. 15:15 "For thy sake I have suffered rebuke."
- D. 1 Jno. 16:33, "In the world ye shall have tribulation."
- E. 1 Peter 2:20-23; 3:13-17; 4:12-16 "think it not strange."

VII. The Chastening Test. Heb. 12:5-6-7

- A. Word means child education + training
- B. Don't despise or get discouraged under chastening.
- C. Endure it humbly and gratefully.
- D. It is a sign of your Father's love.

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