

Live Like a Believer!

1 John 3:7-10

I. Are we living by our New Nature or the Old?

- Only righteousness comes from our new nature; only sin comes from following Satan. (3:7-9).

A. True righteousness comes from our new nature (7).

Paraphrase: Only righteous arises from our new nature, because the Father who gave us that nature is totally righteous.

B. When we sin as believers, we are following Satan – but Christ came to defeat Satan (8, Rom. 16:20)

Paraphrase: Anyone doing what is sinful is doing what is sourced in Satan, but Christ came to defeat Satan.

C. No believer sins when he is living by the new nature (9).

- Literal Greek translation: *The one being born of God does not sin.*

Option 1 – Believers don't continually sin.

Option 2 – Believers cannot sin out of their new nature. (Preferred interpretation)

Paraphrase: The "new you" cannot sin! Because God's seed (new life) is in him.

II. Is it Obvious that we are Believers?

- When we do what is truly right we make it obvious that we are God's children (3:10).

Paraphrase: This absence of sin (v. 9) is how the children of God and the children of the devil make themselves obvious. Remember, any believer who does not do what is right is not living out of His new nature from God, nor anyone who does not love His brother.