

March 5, 2017
Sermon Notes
1 John 3:19-24

What does progress look like?
Moving from condemnation to confidence

Romans 2:14-15 NLT

14 Even Gentiles, who do not have God's written law, show that they know his law when they instinctively obey it, even without having heard it. 15 They demonstrate that God's law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right.

Hebrews 9:9-10 NLT

9 This is an illustration pointing to the present time. For the gifts and sacrifices that the priests offer are not able to cleanse the consciences of the people who bring them. 10 For that old system deals only with food and drink and various cleansing ceremonies—physical regulations that were in effect only until a better system could be established.

John 5:24 NLT

24 "I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

Isaiah 50:9 NLT

9 See, the Sovereign Lord is on my side! Who will declare me guilty? All my enemies will be destroyed like old clothes that have been eaten by moths!

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."
— A.W. Tozer

John 14:13-14 ESV

13 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Presumably the only concern of the true disciple is that God will be glorified, so that true disciples offer prayers in accordance with God's will. This condition automatically excludes prayers for material luxury or expectations that God will relieve suffering. In fact, since God commands us not to "love the world or anything in the world", those who pray for fulfillment of their worldly desires automatically remove themselves from the provisions of these verses. They may, of course, receive the wealth they seek, but the source of such wealth is the world, not God.

What does progress look like?
Moving from confidence to obedience

Philippians 2:13 NLT

13 For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

What does progress look like?
Moving from obedience to community

John 17:23 ESV

23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.