

Characteristics Of A Christian

Introduction. “Characteristic,” meaning “a stamping tool,” originated in the Greek language and was passed into Latin and French. It is a feature or quality belonging typically to a person, place, or thing and serving to identify it.

John wrote his first letter to address the erroneous teaching of Gnosticism. It was a special knowledge that led to arrogance and a lack of love. As a part of his argument, he presents a contrast of the characteristics of true righteousness with false and erroneous traits. By studying these characteristics, I can see if I match up to God wants from His faithful children.

I. Believes Jesus Is Christ

- A. 1 John 5:1, 10-13; 4:1-3.
- B. John 8:24; 20:30-31.
- C. Acts 13:38-39.
- D. Romans 10:9-10.

II. Does Righteousness

- A. 1 John 2:29; 3:7-10.
- B. Acts 10:34-35.
- C. Romans 8:5-10.
- D. 2 Corinthians 5:21.

III. Keeps His Commandments

- A. 1 John 2:3-5; 4:2-3, 17.
- B. Psalm 119:172.
- C. Matthew 7:21; 28:20.
- D. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14.

IV. Does Not Practice Sin

- A. 1 John 3:9; 2:1; 1:8-9.
- B. Colossians 3:5-8.
- C. 2 Corinthians 5:17.
- D. Ezekiel 18:4.

V. Hated By The World

- A. 1 John 3:13; 2:15-17.
- B. John 15:18-19; 17:14-16.
- C. James 4:4.
- D. Romans 12:1-2.

VI. Loves The Brethren

- A. 1 John 3:14-18; 4:7-8, 11-12.
- B. John 13:34-35.
- C. Hebrews 13:1.
- D. Romans 12:9-10.

VII. Overcomes The World

- A. 1 John 5:4-5; 2:12-14.
- B. 1 Corinthians 3:21-23; 15:22-23.
- C. Romans 16:20.
- D. Revelation 2:7-11; 3:4-5; 12:10-11.

Conclusion. If the stamping tool made contact with your life, how would it look when it was removed? Would it be a miscast and thrown out? Would it reveal that you are like Christ? If it does not, there is still time if you will are willing to submit to Him and be baptized for the remission of your sins. There is also still time if you have not followed this Holy Spirit-inspired apostle's prescription for godliness. Come to Jesus today and let us know that you are ready to stand with God.