



CANYON BIBLE CHURCH

GENUINE ASSURANCE FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

A Study through 1 John



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1 John 2:28-3:3 FULL CHANGE *through* ABIDING IN CHRIST

"To be *IN* Christ that is redemption; but for Christ to be *IN* you that is sanctification!" Major W. Ian Thomas

Abide in Him: remain in fellowship by faith in Jesus

Faith *in Jesus* – the Gospel of Jesus Christ our Savior for Eternal Salvation

Faith *in Jesus* – the Gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord for Sanctification

V 28 "Little Children, abide in Him" (Jesus Christ)

- ABIDE: remain in fellowship
 - o Spend time in His written Word
 - o Spend time in prayer (confess sins, *praise Him*, ask of Him, *praise Him*, make petition for others, *praise Him*, make petition for your daily activity, *praise Him*)

"so that – WHEN Christ appears we will" not flee, but rather **"have confidence"** that comes from *abiding in Him*. (1 Pet 1:3-5)

V 29 **"IF you know that He is righteous"** (recognized who Jesus is in a responsive and transformative way = saved by faith and not obedience to the law) **"you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of Him."**

- Everyone born of Jesus has been given His spirit (Rom 8:9,10), and through the Spirit displays the power of this faith that has pure and righteous fruit (Rom 6; 8:11-13; Gal 5:16-25)

3:1 **"See what kind of love the Father has given to us"** (His love is evidenced in our identity) **"that we should be called children of God. And so we are!"**
Romans 8:14-17

Do my practices point to my identity as being IN CHRIST?
Am I "practicing" righteousness, or *do my practices preach a false gospel* to those around me – in so much that I will shrink from Him, Jesus Christ in shame at His coming?

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v.1 (cont) **"The reason the world does not know us (children of God) is that they did not know Him (Jesus)"**

- The world doesn't recognize us as *children of God* because they don't know Jesus in a way that recognizes Him beyond an earthly identity.
- Those born of Christ recognize Jesus as the Son of God manifesting the Father's love for us in a *redemptive and restoring work of salvation through faith*.

3:2 "Beloved, we are God's children now" (our adoption is not a future event, it is a past event at point of conversion – and a current family position) **"and what we will be"** (our glorified state) **"has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is."** (No sin shall be within us when we are able to see/look at Him)

Phil 1:6; 3:20-21 Rom 8:29-30; 1 Thess 3:13; 5:23; 2 Thess 1:10; 1 Cor 1:8

3:3 "And everyone who thus hopes in Him" (children of God, born of Christ, in whom the love of the Father has been given) **"purifies himself"** (how do "we" purify ourselves?) **"as He is pure."**

In whom is your hope placed? How do you know where your hope lies? Do your practices give you confidence on the day Jesus will return, or do they shame you, as moralistic works?

When our hope is in Jesus Christ alone, and we are "practicing righteousness" we then are living a life of faith *for God's glory and our sanctification*.

He who started the work in us will perfects us, and so we shall see Him as He is pure and holy.

1 Pet 1:2; 1 John 1:6,9; Heb 12:2; 2 Thess 1:11-12

Recommended Related Reading:

Romans 3:19-28 "The Righteousness of God *through Faith*"

Romans 6:1-23 "Dead to Sin, Alive to God. *Saves to Righteousness*"



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