

Living as Children of God

1 John 2:28-3:24

I. Live Like Children of God (2:28-3:10)

The **fact** of His first coming and the **hope** of His second coming are both strong incentives to holiness.

A. Be confident and ready for His coming (2:28-3:3)

It is only as we continue in Him today that we will be confident before Him on the last day.

3 possible responses to the return of Christ:

fear and regret

shame

confidence

Righteous living is evidence of new birth, not the cause or condition of it.

God didn't just save us, He made us part of His family

John 1:12; Romans 8:16

B. Be righteous and do not sin (3:4-10)

The first step toward holy living is recognizing the true nature and wickedness of sin.

1. Nature of sin (vs. 4) - "sin is lawlessness"

Sin is active rebellion against God's known will.

A lifestyle of habitual sin is inconsistent with a life of abiding in Christ.

2. Source of sin (vs. 8) – the Devil

John 8:44

It is not that sin is impossible, but that a lifestyle of sin is incompatible with those who we are in Christ

II. Love Like Children of God (3:11-24)

A. Love in action (vs. 11-18)

1. Hatred of Cain and the world (vs. 12-13)

2. Love of Christ and the church (vs. 14-18)

Matthew 5:21-22

the cross shows us His love.

Just as Christ demonstrated His love in His actions, so we demonstrate our love in our actions.

B. Live in confidence (vs. 19-24)

1. Confidence in our standing with God (vs. 19-21)

Revelation 12:10

2. Confidence in our prayer (vs. 22)

John 15:7

3. Confidence in following Christ's command (vs. 23)

to believe (**John 6:29**)

to love (**John 15:12**)

4. Confidence through the Holy Spirit (vs. 24)