



April 26, 2026  
Series: Week 3  
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## **1 John 2:28-3:10 – Living as Children of God**

*John wants Christians to live confidently, understanding who we are, who we will be, and who we should be.*

### **Who We Are:**

#### ***-Rescued, Forgiven, Connected with Christ (1 John 2:28a)***

- A lot had to happen, in order to be in fellowship with Christ! He is perfect and we are not. We are broken, selfish, wandering people, without the hope of redeeming ourselves.
- But Jesus came on a rescue mission to seek and save those who are lost (Luke 19:10).
- For all who have admitted that they are a sinner in need of a Savior, and seen Jesus as their Savior, He takes our sin upon Himself on the cross, paying the debt in full.
- He also extends to us His righteousness, so that when God looks at us, He no longer sees our sins but instead sees us as forgiven and washed clean by the blood of Jesus.

#### ***-Adopted as Children of God (1 John 3:1)***

At an adoption, the judge declares the following to be true:

- *The establishing of new parental rights. (Col. 1:12-14)*
- *The changing of names. (Acts 11:26, Eph. 5:1)*
- *The issuing of new identifying documents. (Eph. 1:13-14)*

### **Consider:**

- Have you admitted that you are a sinner in need of a Savior? Have you received Jesus' free gifts of rescue and forgiveness? Do you desire to follow Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life?
- Are you confident in your adoption as God's beloved child? Are there voices in your life that try to steal this identity, or convince you that you don't really belong in God's family?

### **Who We Will Be:**

#### ***-Filled with courage and confidence when Christ returns (1 John 2:28b)***

- We will be the ones celebrating the final establishment of His Kingdom, as He destroys Satan, sin and death, and reveals the New Heaven and New Earth. (Rev. 19-22)

#### ***-Perfected like Christ, participating in His eternal inheritance (1 John 3:2)***

-Some of the gifts awaiting us in the fullness of our inheritance:

- A new, glorified body (1 Cor. 15:35-58)
- Perfect clarity and understanding (1 Cor. 13:12)
- A new, forever home (Rev. 21-22)
- Face-to-face fellowship with Jesus (Rev. 21:4)

### **Consider:**

- Which of the promises of our future inheritance brings you the most hope and peace today?

### **Who We Should Be:**

#### ***-Grateful and Expectant (1 John 3:3a)***

- Praising Him for what He *has* done, and looking forward to what He *will* do, will prepare us to live as we should *now*.

**-Modeling our lives after Jesus (1 John 3:3b-6)**

-We do this by continually...

**1.) ...Receiving His renovating work (1 John 3:7-8)**

-Jesus is **destroying** lies, fears, and enemy strongholds, and **constructing** new desires, strength, and giftings.

**2.) ...Obeying His call to live rightly and love others (1 John 3:9-10)**

-The "practices of sinning" must be recognized and ended.

-Not simply occasional messing up, but the willful, habitual maintaining of sinful practices (1 John 3:6, 8, 9a, 9b)

**-We must replace the old habits with the new.**

**What if...**

...the **more** you intentionally see others as made by God in His image, the **less** you will struggle with lust, impatience, and being overly competitive?

...the **more** you serve others who are in need, the **less** you will worry about your own?

...the **more** generous with your time, treasure and talents, the **less** you are jealous, unsatisfied, and anxious?

...the **more** you worship Jesus, the **less** you will struggle with pride?

**Consider:**

-Have you experienced God's renovating power working in your life? Who might need to hear that testimony today?

-Do you have any habits or patterns of sin in your life that you are willing to turn over to Jesus' destroying power?

What new habits might you try this week, with the proper motivation of loving God and others more?

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**Living as Children of God**

<sup>28</sup> And now, dear children, remain in fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame.

<sup>29</sup> Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that all who do what is right are God's children.

**Chapter 3**

See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. <sup>2</sup> Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. <sup>3</sup> And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup> Everyone who sins is breaking God's law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God. <sup>5</sup> And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. <sup>6</sup> Anyone who continues to live in him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know him or understand who he is.

<sup>7</sup> Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. <sup>8</sup> But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup> Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God. <sup>10</sup> So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God. **1 John 2:28-3:10 NLT**