

Questions for Discussion and Application

1. Read the passage, 1 John 2:28-3:3, and review the main points of the sermon outline.
2. What confidence does the believer have when Christ returns (v2:28)?
3. What is the relationship between inward spiritual transformation (“born of Him”) and an outward lifestyle of righteousness (v2:29)?
4. How is the love of God a motivating factor for living a life of righteousness (v3:1)?
5. What does it mean that we will be “like Christ” (v3:2) when He returns? How does this future hope motivate you to live righteously today?

Next sermon: 1 John 3:4-12

Drawing Closer: Fostering Fellowship with the Father (A Study of 1 John)

“Like Father, Like Son”

1 John 2:28-3:3

John Park

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1. THOSE WHO ABIDE IN CHRIST TODAY WILL STAND CONFIDENT WHEN CHRIST RETURNS TOMORROW

²⁸ Now, little children, **abide in Him**, so that when **He appears**, we may have **confidence** and not shrink away from Him in shame at **His coming**.

2. THE MARK OF ABIDING IN CHRIST IS INWARD SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION THAT OVERFLOWS INTO AN OUTWARD LIFESTYLE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

²⁹ If you know that He is **righteous**, you know that everyone also who **practices righteousness** is **born of Him**.

- a. Inward spiritual transformation: “born of Him”

b. Outward lifestyle of righteousness: “practices righteousness”

b. Our future hope as beloved children of God

² Beloved, now we are **children of God**, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, **we will be like Him**, because we will see Him just as He is. ³ And everyone who has this **hope** fixed on Him **purifies himself**, just as He is pure.

3. THE MOTIVATION FOR LIVING RIGHTEOUSLY TODAY IS OUR PRESENT IDENTITY AS BELOVED CHILDREN OF GOD AND THE FUTURE HOPE WE HAVE THAT WE WILL BE LIKE CHRIST WHEN HE RETURNS TOMORROW

a. Our present identity as beloved children of God

¹ See how **great a love** the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called **children of God**; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.