

Join The Family

1 John 3:1-3

New King James Version (NKJV)

1 John 3

¹ Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!^[a] Therefore the world does not know us,^[b] because it did not know Him. ² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

The experience by which we become the sons of God and the experience, by which we become brothers to one another, are one in the same.

Jesus calls it “born again’ or “new birth.”

Acts 17:26

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²⁶ And He has made from one blood^[a] every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,

Not all sons of men are sons of God.

John 1:12

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¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

There are a number of scriptures that point out privileges, graces and assurances but none of these spells it out more beautifully than the passage we will now look at.

I. The Family Name:

The sons of god

Children of God

A variety of personalities

Matthew the publican

Simon the zealot

The unbelieving are not a part of this family

John 8:42

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⁴² Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.

John 8:47

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⁴⁷ He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.”

Matthew 12:46-49

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Jesus’ Mother and Brothers Send for Him

⁴⁶ While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him. ⁴⁷ Then one said to Him, “Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You.”

⁴⁸ But He answered and said to the one who told Him, “Who is My mother and who are My brothers?” ⁴⁹ And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, “Here are My mother and My brothers!

The household of God is for the sons of God and heaven is attained only by relationship.

The sons of God have another name.

Acts 11:26

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²⁶ And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

Christ

Inside

Abiding

Now

II. The Family Life

Note v3

1 John 3:3

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³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Purity is a pursuit for all believers.

Carelessness is not acceptable.

Casual has degraded to care less.

Hebrews 12:14

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¹⁴ Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

Romans 8:14

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¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

There is a worldwide family resemblance among the true sons and daughters of God.

A family resemblance is one of the most convincing proofs of a family relationship.

Philippians 3:20

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²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

Philippians 3:21

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²¹ who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

We hold citizenship in heaven. We cannot let down and live a shabby Christian life.

You are the son or daughter of the King so live like it!

III. The Family Hope

1 John 3:2

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² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

a. He shall appear.

What a motivation to live holy.

Hebrews 9:28

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²⁸ so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

This fact is what sustains the family of God through all the crises, reverses, discouragements and persecutions.

b. We shall see Him.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

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¹⁶ For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

c. We shall be like Him.

We shall be perfected.

1 Corinthians 2:9

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⁹ But as it is written:

*“ Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”^[a]*

Hymn PG 334

The Family of God