

## **God's Beloved Children, *Abide in Christ!***

Guard Against Deceivers and Compromise by Closeness to Jesus - from 1 John 2:28-3:3

From early on, Christ's disciples have had to deal with deceivers, defectors, as well as personal doubts. Remember Judas, and Thomas? John, Jesus' beloved disciple, often reinforced our need to abide in Christ – His truth, and ways (cf. John 7:17; 8:31, 32; 14:6). In John 15, Jesus described abiding as an intimate, life-giving, relationship of dependence. Some 2000 years later, we still need to be vigilant in our love for, and closeness to Christ (John 14:15, 21-23; 15:1-10; 1 John 5:3; 2 John 6).

**28**“And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. **29** If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

**3:1**“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. **2** Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. **3** And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.” **(1 John 2:28-3:3 - ESV)**

### **Beloved Children of God, Abide In:**

#### ➤ **His Ways of Righteousness (2:28, 29)**

Unlike those who defect, and deny Him,, and live in sin (1 John 2:1-27)

Be Confident, not ashamed, at His appearing (Ephesians 3:12; 1 Thessalonians 2:19; 1 John 4:17)

Show who your Father is by being “holy as He is holy” (cf. 1 Peter 1:16; Leviticus 11:44; 45; 19:2; 20:7)

#### ➤ **Your Secure Identity as God's beloved Child (3:1, 2)**

Know it! You are His Beloved Child (cf. Matt. 3:17; 17:5; John 3:16)

The World don't get it, Him, us (John 1:11-13)

We don't always show the family resemblance (1 John 1:8-2:2)

But, we will someday see and be like Him (1 Thess. 4, 5; 2 Thess. 1-3)

#### ➤ **Practices that Lead to Personal Purity (3:3)**

The Hope He gives moves us to put away sin (cf. Col. 3:5-10)

Obedience is born of love for Him (John 14:21; 1 John 2:3-6; 5:1-5)

### **Application Questions, Additional Study**

Are you letting Christ-deniers influence you? Are you dealing with sin and doubts?

What are you doing to prevent “truth decay”? How are you deepening your abiding in His truth?

God calls those trusting in Jesus His loved Children! Let that sink in and stay put. John 3:16!

Rejoice that someday we will have all sin removed from us. Live in His hope (1 Thessalonians 4, 5).

What can you do to step up your pursuit of purity, daily holiness? Read Ephesians 4, 5.

**A Discipleship tool of Christ Community Fellowship**

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