



OUR DYNAMIC HOPE 1 JOHN 2:28-3:10

Background

Date: 80's Author/Reader: Apostle John/Circular Letter
Occasion: Firm faith against seductive false teaching
Theme: Live in the Light. Christ is the Light.
Tone: A father's heart to clarify, assure, gird, and guide

“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. If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him. 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. 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. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning because he has been born of God. By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.” (1John 3:4-10 ESV)

Paternity Test: Who's Your Daddy?

4/7/19

Sermon Audio found online: fbccorvallis.org

Polarity for Clarity

Promise for Pursuit

Going Deeper

(For individual or small groups to go deeper with the passage)

1. Read 1 John 2:28-3:10 two or three times.
2. What is the deception John is warning the readers about?
3. This passage can create unwarranted concern or can be too easily dismissed. Compare 1 John 1:6,8,10; 2:4,6,9 and 1 John 3:4-10. Assuming John is not contradicting himself, how do you make sense of his teaching?
4. Use Biblehub.com to do a word study on “lawlessness” (*anomia*) or look up the word in Vine's Dictionary (www.studylight.org). Is John making a reference to sin and the law of Moses or describing a type of person using this word? Why would this matter?
5. The word “seed” is used by John in a powerful way in 3:9. Read 1 John 2:24, 27; 3:4; 4:12,15,16. What do you think the “seed abiding in you” is? Why is this powerful?
6. Where do you find hope to carry on in this passage?

Spiritual Exercise: This week reflect on the “hope” we have as those twice born. One day, you will be like Christ is now. This is a great promise (Phi. 1:6)! Until then, we need to live out this hope. Memorize 2 Cor. 5:17 substituting “I am” instead of “if anyone is”. Write a personal prayer based on Gal. 5:16-17 and pray it each morning.