



The Love of God

1 John 3:1-3

I. Our Past Calling, 1

Behold, what manner of love

Always implies amazement –

Mt.8:27 – So the men marveled, saying, “**Who** can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?”

Behold, what manner of love

Always implies amazement –

Mt.8:27

Mk.13:1 – Then as He went out of the temple, one of His disciples said to Him, “Teacher, see **what manner** of stones and what buildings *are here!*”

Behold, what manner of love

Always implies amazement –

Mt.8:27

Mk.13:1

Lk.1:29 – But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered **what manner** of greeting this was.

Behold, what manner of love

Always implies amazement –

Mt.8:27

Mk.13:1

Lk.1:29

Lk.7:39 – Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, “This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and **what manner** of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner.”

Behold, what manner of love

Always implies amazement –

Mt.8:27

Mk.13:1

Lk.1:29

Lk.7:39

1 Jn.3:1 – Behold **what manner** of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God

Behold,

Always

Mt.8:27

Mk.13:1

Lk.1:29

Lk.7:39

1 Jn.3:1 – Behold **what manner** of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God

Orig.: of what country?

Unearthly!

‘Never saw anything like it.’

‘What on earth...??’

Jn.8:14

Father has bestowed on us

- 'Bestowed': **gave** (Jn.3:16)

That we should be called
children of God

And we are

!

Not just a title –
a relationship

No matter what others think
of us, this is reality

Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him

- As His glory was veiled in flesh, our life is hid with Christ in God, Col.3:3
- Some day, our son-ship will be obvious to all, Ro.8:19. - Joseph
- Hard to know what is more amazing:

God's love
for us



Man's
rejection

This passage implies Father's

- *Care.* Mt.6:9; 7:7-12
- *Compassion.* Lk.15:20
- *Companionship.* 1 Jn.1:3; Ac.7
- *Character.* 1 Jn.3:1
 - Jn.1:12, power to *become*...
 - 1 Jn.3:10, evidence one *is*...
 - Jn.8:37-47, no clue how to *be*

I. Our Past Calling, 1

II. Our Future Change, 2

A contrast: now...not yet

- now we are children of God; it has not yet been revealed what we shall be
 - We know present state: children
 - We do not know future state
 - What we are *now* does *not yet* appear to the *world*
 - What we *will be* does *not yet* appear to *us*

A contrast: now...not yet

- now we are children of God; it has not yet been revealed what we shall be
 - We know present state: children
 - We do not know future state
 - 2:19: antichrists already revealed...
 - 1 Co.15: do not try to answer foolish questions about future state

A contrast: now...not yet

A certainty: He *will* be revealed

He always does what He promises

- First coming, 1 Jn.4:2
- Pentecost, Mt.16:28
- Destruction of Jerusalem, Mt.24:29f
- Judgment on churches, Rv.2-3
- Final coming, 1 Th.5:2-3

•A contrast: now...not yet

A certainty: He will be revealed

A comparison: we shall be like Him

• 1 Tim.6:14-16, *unapproachable glory*

–Ex.33:...20 . . . Mt.17:...2-3

We shall see Him as He *is*

• Not as He *was*: humility of humanity

• Jn.17:5 . . . Ps.17:15 . . . Mt.13:43

I. Our Past Calling, 1

II. Our Future Change, 2

III. Our Present Concern, 3

Our craving:

- Everyone who has this hope in Him...
 - 1 Pt.1:4, this hope (inheritance) is:
 - death-proof (*incorruptible*)
 - dirt proof (*undefiled*)
 - decay-proof (*fades not away*)

Our craving: this hope in Him

Our cleansing: purifies himself

- Future blessings are conditional
 - Mt.5:8 – (1 Pt.5:8)

Our craving: this hope in Him
Our cleansing: purifies himself

Our calling: just as He is pure

- The **problem**: Job; Isaiah; Danel...
- The **portion**: be as pure as Jesus
- The **pretense**:
 - "If Jesus were here today, He wouldn't be in churches; He would be with sinners, loving them"
 - Lk.4:16 – Hb.10:24-25 (Mt.26)

Conclusion:

- Illegitimate way to become like God
– Gn.3:5.
- Right way – 1 Jn.3. Ro.8:29.

'Father' – 'children' (1 Jn.3:1-3)

- Gn.37, Jacob and Joseph
- 1 Th.2:7, Mother and children