

Be What You Are

(1 John 3:1-10)

Mt.12:30

1 John 2...

1 Jn.2:29
BRIDGE

1 John 3...

3:1-10 – *we are children of God.*
Let's *be what we are.*

I. Father: For Us, 1

1: 'Behold what manner...'

- Originally, 'of what country?'
- What sort / what kind?
- How great / how wonderful.
 - Mt.8:27, what sort of Man is this...?
 - Mk.13:1, stones...?
 - 1 Jn.4:14
- Ps.106
- Hos.3

1: Children of God

- Not merely 'creation' of God (animals; trees)
 - 2 Jn.4; 3 Jn.4

'And we are'

- Not merely *called* children of God.

I. Father: For Us, 1

II. World: Against Us, 1

1: our family likeness disturbs people

- World: mankind alienated from and opposed to God; realm of evil.

What is more astonishing –

¹God's love to world, or . . .

²world's hatred for God and His children?

1: World does not know us

- See us, call us by name, but do not realize we are children of God.
 - Child of prince...
- They do not understand or seek dealings with, or even like Christians (13).
- World tries to remake Christians in their own mold.

1: World does not know us... because it did not know Him

- World hates us because of our relation with Lord.

- Jn.17:14

- Hb.11:38

- Ac.22:22

‘Those who despise and deride us, know not who we are, citizens of heaven, belonging to an eternal fatherland, associates of the Cherubim; but they will know it in the day of judgment when they will exclaim with sighs and amazement, these are they whom we used to despise and persecute’ – Chrysostom

I. Father: For Us, 1

II. World: Against Us, 1

III. Christians: The Deciding
Vote, 2-7

2: Children of God, therefore...

- Not yet revealed what we shall be. 1 Pt.1:4
- We shall be like Him.

3: Hope: desire + expectation

- Everyone: no exceptions
- Purifies himself: Mt.5:8. Ac.27:20
- Just as He is pure. 1 Pt.1:15

4: What about sin?

Opposite of pure life, v.3

- Whoever... (2:29).

Born twice, die once; born once, die twice

- Commits sin [**doeth sin** (ASV); **practices sin**, (NASB); **makes a practice of...** (ESV)]
- Also commits lawlessness [doeth...] Ro.6:19
- To do sin is to do lawlessness... (convertible terms)

5: Lord's relation to sin

- Why did He come? To take away our sins, Jn.1:29. [Jn.11:39]
- In Him is no sin.
 - Jn.19:15 – crowd 'took Him away' though He was without sin (8:46).

He lived that He might die.
He died that we might live.

- Those 'in Him' must separate from sin.

6: Our relation to sin

- Whoever abides in Him does not sin
 - Present tense
 - Christian falls into sin (1:8, 10; 2:1)
 - Does NOT live in sin.

‘He that falls into sin is a man; he that boasts of sin is a devil; he that grieves at sin is a saint.’

- Whoever sins has not seen / known Him
 - 3 Jn.11

7: Let no one deceive you

- One who does righteousness is righteous.
- Ja.2, faith without works... 'Show me!'

I. Father: For Us, 1

II. World: Against Us, 1

III. Christians: Deciding Vote, 2-7

IV. Devil: Our Unseen
Adversary, 8

8: He who practices sin is of the devil...

- Devil sinned from the beginning
 - Jn.8:44
 - 1 Jn.2:13-14
 - Ep.6:11
 - Ja.4:7
- Jesus appeared that He might destroy works of devil.
 - Break up and do away with (Mt.12:29)

8: He who practices sin is of the devil...

- Jesus cures worse disease in world, yet some refuse it.
- Worse, some 'Christians' practice what Lord came to destroy.

'Satan's biggest fear is for you to become what God created you to be. This is why he has tried everything to make you lose focus.'

Conclusion: 9-10

- **SIN** is not something we 'do' (*doeth* no sin)...
- **SEED** remains in us
 - Mt.13:24, 27, 32, 37-38
 - Lk.8:11
 - Jn.17:17
 - Ja.1:18
 - 1 Pt.1:23

1 John 1:10; 2:5, 14

Jn.8:44, satan's seed resembles him.

1 Jn.3: seed resembles Father. 2 Pt.1:4

Conclusion: 9-10

- **SIN** is not something we 'do' (*doeth* no sin)...
- **SEED** remains in us
- **STAY** in right way
 - 'Cannot sin'
 - Does NOT mean impossible
 - Simply NOT PERMITTED. Gn.39:9;
Mt.4

Conclusion: 9-10

- **SIN** is not something we 'do' (*doeth* no sin)...
- **SEED** remains in us
- **STAY** in right way
- **SIGN** (makes us manifest, 10)
 - How to recognize children of God?
 1. Practice righteousness
 2. Love brothers

Mt.7:16

Life reveals children of God.

‘The dangerous thing about going outside God’s will to get what you want, is that you have to stay outside God’s will to keep it.’