

## The Call To Purity: 1 John 3:1-3.

### I. 1-2: The Father And His Children.

John speaks in amazement about the measure and type of love that makes us children of God. He wants us to behold it- that is, look at it and study it intently.

***Ephesians 2:1-5:** And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)...*

***John 1:12** - But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.*

God's love is so deep that He finds strangers, the lost, the lonely, the dead and any sinner and gives them a new identity. The Greek earthly comparison to God's unconditional love for us is of a mother and a nursing baby- the baby doesn't care at all about the mother, it only cares about its needs whether food, clothing, housing...yet the mother takes unconditional care of the child.

***2 Corinthians 6:18** - I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty,"*

***Romans 8:16** - The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*

We have an identity that this world doesn't understand because they don't know Him.

It has not yet been revealed what we shall be; though our present standing is plain, our future destiny is clouded.

However, we are not left completely in the dark about our future state. When Jesus is revealed to us, either by His coming for us or our coming to Him, we shall be like Him.

I can only imagine, What my eyes will see, When your face, Is before me, I can only imagine...Surrounded by Your glory, what will my heart feel, Will I dance for you Jesus or in awe of you be still, Will I stand in your presence or to my knees will I fall, Will I sing hallelujah, will I be able to speak at all...

## II. 3: Our Response To The Father's Love.

Hebrews 12:1b...let us lay aside every weight and the sin and the sin which so easily ensnares us...

"Pure" occurs 102 times in 97 verses, "purity" occurs 5 times in 5 verses, "purify" occurs 15 times in 14 verses in the NKJV.

God's children are called to purity, knowing our destiny purifies our lives right now. Having the anticipation of being with Jesus, of the soon coming of Jesus Christ, should have a purifying effect in our lives. It makes us want to be ready, to be serving Him now, to be pleasing Him now.

**Purity means freedom from sinful habits, spiritual and physical cleanliness and stainlessness.** In the OT God required the priests, the people, the offerings and the instruments of Temple use to be clean and pure, and that hasn't changed.

The Christian should long to be like Jesus. The sobering, eternal truth is this: God gives man what he really wants. If you really want to be like Jesus, it will be granted. When we know our end is to be more like Jesus, it makes us want to be more like Jesus right now.

***Psalm 24:3** - Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.*

***Proverbs 22:11** - He who loves purity of heart, And has grace on his lips, The king will be his friend.*

***Mathew 5:8** - Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.*

***1 Peter 1:22** - Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart...*

***Philippians 4:8** - Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.*

***1 Timothy 5:22b** - keep yourself pure.*

***James 4:8** - Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*