

God's Purpose in Fellowship 1 John 2:28-3:10

I. Approved by Christ – 2:28-29

1. In Christ we're born into God's family – 28
"Little Children" is God's "born ones" – Jn. 1:12-13
God has taken us into His family
We are to abide in Him – place of security
In Him we have confidence of acceptance
Abiding in Him – place of fruitfulness – Jn. 15:1-11
We do not need to fear or be ashamed
2. His righteousness is produced in us – 29
Family likeness is being reproduced in us
Transformation in righteousness assures us we are born of God

II. Completion in Christ – 3:1-3

1. We are Children of God – 1
Word "sons" is "teknon" – "born ones"
We are born into God's own family
2. Recipients of His love & grace – 1
Position as children speaks of His love
It is not of us but because of His love
The love of God is beyond measure
3. God's children are strange to the world
Being in Christ separates us from the world
It doesn't know us because it didn't know Him
4. We are God's children in the present - 2
5. God's children have a great future – 2
Only the beginning of what we shall be
Glorious prospect ahead for God's children
6. Conformed to the image of Christ - 2
Complete transformation at Christ's return
When He appears we shall be like Him
Not physical likeness – but physically whole
Spiritual likeness – righteous before God
Nothing to hinder full fellowship with God
God's purpose for His children – Rom. 8:29
7. Paul speaks of this change – 1 Cor. 15:51-54
Mortality & corruptibility refers to the body
Our spirit is regenerated – Titus 3:5-6
Our soul has been redeemed – 1 Pet. 1:18-19
Our body awaits time of redemption – Rom. 8:22-23
This is where we struggle flesh against spirit
Gal. 5:16-25
Paul wrote of his discipline – 1 Cor. 9:24-27
This new body is described in 1 Cor. 15:35-50
It is our body but transformed – suited for eternity
It is a spiritual body – yielded to our renewed spirit
Like the resurrected, glorified body of Christ
8. We will see Christ in all of His glory – 2
His glory transforms us - 2 Cor. 3:18
Every vestige of sin is forever gone
9. Our hope provides present motivation – 3
Knowing we will be like him encourages us
Creates a desire to be more like Him now

III. Development as Children – 3:4-10

1. Sin is inconsistent for God's children – 4-6
Contrary to Our Father's standard (law) – 4
Contrary to Christ's redemptive work – 5-6
He came to deliver us from sin
There is no sin in Him and we shall be like Him
To continue in sin is to misunderstand salvation
2. Righteousness is Christ-like – 7-8
Righteousness born into God's children – 7
If born of Him He will produce righteousness in us
Sin is a characteristic of Satan – 8
Those continuing in sin show their family likeness
Satan led angels & humans in rebellion against God
Jesus came & died to destroy Satan's power over us
3. New Nature does not produce sin – 9-10
Partakers of the Divine nature – 2 Peter 1:4
God's nature in us will not produce sin
Sin comes from allowing flesh to control
Note 1 John 2:16 –
Desires of the flesh, eyes & pride of life
Righteousness comes by God's nature in us
His Spirit produces the fruit of righteousness
Difference between children of God & children of the devil