

Warnings and Exhortations, Part 3 (1 John 2:28—3:3)

Remain in Him, Look Ahead, and Purify Yourself

²⁸ And now, little children, **abide** in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. ²⁹ If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him. ^{3:1} Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

1. John's Command: Be abiding in Him (2:28a)

²⁸ And now, little children, **abide** in Him,

a. Meaning: *Remain, Continue, Abide*

b. Tense: *Present imperative – continually remaining*

c. Direction: *In Him...*

d. Connection: *Repeats command at the end of 1 John 2:27*
and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him. (be abiding in it/him)

e. Biblical Usage:

NT: 118x in 102 verses – 68 of those are John's (nearly 58%), and John uses the term 24x in 1 John alone (in only 3 of 5 chapters).

f. Sample List:

^{2:6} He who says he **abides in Him** ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

^{2:10} He who loves his brother **abides in the light**...

^{2:14} ...I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and **the word of God abides in you**, And you have overcome the wicked one.

^{2:17} ... but he who does the will of God **abides forever**. (lit. "into the forever")

^{2:24} Therefore **let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning**. If **what you heard from the beginning abides in you**, you also **will abide in the Son** and in the Father.

^{3:6} Whoever **abides in Him** does not sin. ...

^{3:14} ...He who does not love *his* brother **abides in death**.

^{3:15} ...you know that no murderer has eternal life **abiding in him**.

^{3:17} But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does **the love of God abide in him?**

^{3:24} Now he who keeps His commandments **abides in Him**, and He in him. And by this we know that **He abides in us**, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

^{4:12} ...If we love one another, **God abides in us**...

^{4:13} By this we know that **we abide in Him**, and **He in us**, because He has given us of His Spirit.

^{4:15} Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, **God abides in him**, and **he in God**.

^{4:16} ...God is love, and **he who abides in love abides in God**, and God in him.

2. John's Reason: Jesus Is Coming Back (2:28b)

that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

a. His coming

b. Our two possibilities

- *Have confidence before Him*
- *Be ashamed before Him*

3. John's Explanation: Jesus Is Righteous (2:29)

²⁹ If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

a. Jesus Is Righteous

b. Doers of Righteousness Are Born of Jesus

4. Our Privilege: God Has Made Us His Children (3:1a)

^{3:1} Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

a. An Act of God's Love

b. Given by God to Us

c. Called the Children of God

5. Our Standing: We Are Strangers to the World (3:1b)

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

a. We are identified with God as His children

b. We are unknown to the world as God is unknown to them

6. Our Anticipation: Looking to What Is Coming (3:2)

² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

a. Our Present Standing: *Now are we children of God...*

b. Our Undescribed Future: *It has not yet been revealed...*

c. Our Returning Savior: *When He is revealed...*

d. Our Coming Reality: *We shall be like Him...*

e. Our Coming Relationship: *We shall see Him as He is.*

7. Our Active Response: Purifying Ourselves (3:3)

³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

a. People: *Everyone who has this hope*

b. Practice: *Ongoing purifying*

- *Activity: Is purifying (ongoing cleaning)*
- *Responsibility: Himself (individual duty)*

c. Principle: *Just as He is pure*