

Children of God?
1 John 2: 28-3:3
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- Introduction:** **1976 – A very good year**
 Professor; advisor; Mentor; boss
 10th anniversary
 I had let someone else define me
 What defines you as a person?
 Failures: Marriage; parenting; business; academic; financial
 Fears
 Derision of your peers
 Many people wake up in the mornings and they don't like themselves
 Do you hear what I am saying – or not saying?
 See what kind of love the Father has given to us that we should be called the
 children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us
 is that it did not know Him.” – 1 John 3: 1
- I. We are Defined by Christ**
- a. A. Not defined by the World**
 - “The world” includes: our past, our fears, our failures and our former friends – among other things/people**
 - b. We are defined by God**
 - i. This is not the universal fatherhood of God nor the universal brotherhood of man**
 - ii. This is a wholly different and unique relationship initiated and perpetuated by God Almighty**
 - c. An alien love by God**
 - i. See what kind of love . . . (ESV)**
 - ii. Behold what manner of love . . . (KJV)**
 - iii. Of what country is this love of God?**
 - iv. He is saying the kind of love that takes folks like us; cleans us up , takes us into His arms as an adoptive Father, and re-defines us as His children – that love is alien!**
 - v. If there was no eternity with God; no adoption as sons; no defining us by God; if nothing accrued to our benefit for believing, we would still obliged to bend our knee and heed His commands.**
 - vi. But there is a heaven & and eternity with God 7 and a re-defining of who we are.**
 - vii. Our sin (ambivalence, rebellion, self absorbed ways) separate us from God and His Blessings**
 - viii. Not a sinner? Strap in!**
 - ix. If my good deeds don't help, where is our hope?**
 - x. There is good news!**
 - 1. Incarnation, imputation, satisfaction, ascension**
 - 2. Justice is served**
 - xi. Repentance and faith**
 - d. Take Away**

**Other relevant Scripture
Children of God?**

1 John 3: 1 – The reason why “the world” does not know us is that it did not know Him.”

1 John 5: 19 – We know that we are from God and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

1 John 3: 1 – See what kind of love the Father has for us, that we should be called children of God, and so we are.”

John 1: 12 - But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He [God Almighty] gave the right to become children of God.

Romans 8: 15 – For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back to fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption – as sons.

Galatians 4 – You are no longer a slave, but a son.

1 John 3: 1 (ESV) – See what kind of love . . .”

1 John 3:1 (KJV) – Behold, what manner of love . . .”

Romans 3: 19 – By good deeds shall no man be made right with God.

2 Corinthians 5: 21 – For our sake, He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.