

1 John 3:1-10

In our day and time, and in our church culture, the word doctrine is a dirty word. It has become synonymous with boring and irrelevant. As we look at 1 John 3:1-10, one thing is absolutely clear: the centrality of doctrine. John actually unveils for his audience here 3 very important doctrines.

### **I. The Doctrine of Adoption v1-2a**

John 1:12-13 *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

Romans 8:14-17 *For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

Ephesians 5:1 *Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children*

### **II. Glorification v2b**

Romans 8:18-30

2 Cor 3:18 *But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.*

Phil 3:20-21 *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.*

### **III. Sanctification v3**

*Sanctification is a progressive work of God and man that makes us more and more free from sin and like Christ in our actual lives. Grudem*

#### **1. Our Role in Sanctification v3**

2 Cor 7:1 *Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

Romans 8:13 *for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*

Hebrews 12:14 *Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.*

## 2. God's Role in Sanctification

1 These 5:23 *Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

### a. He appeared to take away sins v4-6

Matthew 1:21 *She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.*

### b. He appeared to destroy the works of the devil v7-8

Hebrews 2:14-15 *Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.*

### c. He appeared to give us second birth v9

John 1:11-13 *He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

John 3:1-3

God's seed cannot make peace with a pattern of sinful behavior.

## Conclusion:

He accomplished the work in His past appearing as He adopts us into His family.  
He applies the work to us in His present appearing as He sanctifies us by  
He completes the work in His future appearing when He glorifies us for all eternity!

And if this is true it will make it very very clear who we belong to! v10

## Discussion Questions

1. Take some time to review the sermon notes from Sunday.
2. Was there anything from this sermon that was difficult to understand or that didn't make sense to you? Discuss it with the group to try and get a better understanding.
3. What do we learn about God the Father....God the Son....and/or God the Holy Spirit from the main Scripture text that was used?
4. What do we learn about man from the main text?
5. Are there any commands to obey? Promises to believe? Sins to avoid in the main Scripture text?
6. What do you believe was the most impactful part of the sermon Sunday? Discuss.
7. How do you plan to apply some portion of what you learned to your life? For example, "In response to this sermon, I will \_\_\_\_\_"