

1 John 3:1-24

The Identity Marks of a True Christian

Teachings in 1 John 3:1-24

1. The Privilege of Being God's Children 3:1-3
2. The Difference between God's Children and Satan's Children 3:4-10
3. The Command to Love One Another 3:11
4. The Reason the World Hates Christians 3:12-13
5. Assurance of the New Birth: Love of the brethren 3:14-24

1. The Privilege of Being God's Children 3:1-3

^{ESV} **1 John 3:1** See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

- **The Prospect of Being Like Jesus 3:2**

² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

1. The Privilege of Being God's Children 3:1-3

- **The Purity Required 3:3**

³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

2. The Difference between God's Children and Satan's Children 3:4-10

- **A definition of a sinner 3:4**

⁴ Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

- **Jesus came to deliver His People from sin 3:5**

⁵ You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

2. The Difference between God's Children and Satan's Children 3:4-10

- **A Person who practices sin is not a Christian 3:6-10**

⁶ No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him.

⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

⁸ Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

2. The Difference between God's Children and Satan's Children 3:4-10

• A Person who practices sin is not a Christian 3:6-10

⁹ No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.

¹⁰ By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

3. The Command to Love One Another 3:11

1 John 3:11 For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

4. The Reason the World Hates Christians 3:12-13

¹² We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous.

¹³ Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you.

5. Assurance of the New Birth: Love of the brethren 3:14-24

• A measurable test to know if you are born again 3:14-16

¹⁴ We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.

¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.

5. Assurance of the New Birth: Love of the brethren 3:14-24

• Illustration of love for a brother 3:17-18

¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

5. Assurance of the New Birth: Love of the brethren 3:14-24

• Assurance of the New Birth from the Practice of Love 3:19-24

➤ Assurance of being in the truth 3:19-20

¹⁹ By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him;

²⁰ for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.

5. Assurance of the New Birth: Love of the brethren 3:14-24

• Assurance of the New Birth from the Practice of Love 3:19-24

➤ Assurance of answered prayer 3:21-22

²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God;

²² and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

5. Assurance of the New Birth: Love of the brethren 3:14-24

• Assurance of the New Birth from the Practice of Love 3:19-24

➤ Assurance of abiding in God 3:23-24

²³ And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

²⁴ Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

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