

This. Is. Love.  
October 7, 2014  
1 John 2:28 – 3:24

- I. Exhortation and Reassurance – 1 John 2:28-3:10
  - A. Denunciating the Secessionists (2:18-27)
    1. “\_\_\_\_\_” were leading church members astray
    2. John wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ up and \_\_\_\_\_ church members
  
- II. The Confidence of God’s Children – Vv. 28-29
  - A. Building on the Exhortation: Remain in him
    1. Motivation for \_\_\_\_\_
    2. There will be two \_\_\_\_\_
    3. This is meant to \_\_\_\_\_ them
    4. Becoming like \_\_\_\_\_
      - a. As we remain in him, we will “\_\_\_\_\_” more and more like Jesus
    5. However, this is \_\_\_\_\_ that we have be born of God
      - a. Not a \_\_\_\_\_ in order to become born of God
      - b. It is from start to finish \_\_\_\_\_ work in us
  
- III. God’s Lavish Love – 3:1-3
  - A. Expresses Wonder
    1. “Behold! How great is the love the Father has lavished on us!” (lov
      - a. \_\_\_\_\_ word for “how great” (*potapen*) – literally means “of what \_\_\_\_\_”
    2. God “calling us” his children is an act of “\_\_\_\_\_” in which the father \_\_\_\_\_ his child and thereby makes a permanent claim to \_\_\_\_\_
      - a. None of this is the \_\_\_\_\_ doing
      - b. Rather, the identity is \_\_\_\_\_ in the Father’s hands, so that the child’s \_\_\_\_\_ is assured
  - B. Contrast
    1. Those who do not \_\_\_\_\_ him are not his children
    2. 3:1b – lit. “On account of this...”
      - a. We are God’s children, and that is \_\_\_\_\_ the world does not know us...because they don’t know \_\_\_\_\_

C. Future Consequence

1. \_\_\_\_\_ we are God's children
  - a. Our life in him begins now and will last \_\_\_\_\_
2. Someday, when Jesus returns, we will see him in his \_\_\_\_\_, and we will be just like him

D. Response

1. If we know God's \_\_\_\_\_ and if we know we will \_\_\_\_\_ forever with him
  - a. That should be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ motivation to live in a way that honors God
2. However, this isn't a "just try \_\_\_\_\_" philosophy
  - a. For the power to live a life that honors God, comes from \_\_\_\_\_ himself

E. Reasons for Confidence

1. Knowing \_\_\_\_\_ and being aware of the \_\_\_\_\_ he is doing in our lives, should build "renewed joy and assurance among Christians"

IV. God's Children and Children of the Devil – Vv. 4-10

A. Context: John's Purpose

1. Remember, John's purpose here is to reassure his readers in their \_\_\_\_\_
2. He is not trying to instill \_\_\_\_\_ in his readers

B. An Eye on the Secessionists

1. Remember their claims
  - a. They did not \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Sin was not part of their \_\_\_\_\_
2. Yet at the same time, they were not living lives of \_\_\_\_\_ toward others
3. John is NOT confronting people who believed they were freed \_\_\_\_\_ sin
  - a. Rather he was confronting those who believed that were free \_\_\_\_\_ sin

C. Lawlessness

1. One who is lawless is one who stands in direct \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ
2. They are in \_\_\_\_\_ to God, his Son, and the Gospel

D. John's Point

1. A follower of Jesus should never live in \_\_\_\_\_ rebellion to God
2. We are not saved \_\_\_\_\_ we walk in obedience to God
  - a. Rather, we \_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit, living in obedience to God, because we have been saved from sin and death
3. Where John would want us to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Not on whether or not we \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. We are to focus on the unfathomable \_\_\_\_\_ of God

V. Second Half of the Letter

A. Beginning at 3:11

1. The focus was on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the first half
2. The focus is on love within the \_\_\_\_\_ in the second half

B. First Half

1. Defined the difference between those who live in the \_\_\_\_\_ and those who live in \_\_\_\_\_
2. John's readers are \_\_\_\_\_ of God
  - a. The secessionists are antichrists and children of the \_\_\_\_\_

C. Second Half

1. Is about the \_\_\_\_\_ of their life together
2. The secessionists had \_\_\_\_\_ the community, and John wants to help rebuild it

D. Structure of 1 John 3:11-24

1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ one another
2. \_\_\_\_\_ example
3. \_\_\_\_\_ example

E. This is the Message

1. Almost identical to 1:5
  - a. The message there was "God is \_\_\_\_\_"
  - b. Now it is "\_\_\_\_\_ one another"

VI. Exhortation and the Example of Cain – Vv. 11-15

A. Exhortation: Love on Another

1. From the beginning
  - a. From \_\_\_\_\_ himself

B. How Not to Love: The Example of Cain

1. Two points
  - a. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ and hate one another like Cain did Abel

- b. Comparison: The same sort of \_\_\_\_\_ Cain had for Abel is present in the secessionists

C. Murderers

- 1. Jesus' teaching
  - a. When we \_\_\_\_\_, envy, and malign one another, we are exhibiting the same core \_\_\_\_\_ as Cain

VII. The Example of Jesus – Vv. 16-18

A. Completely Different

- 1. John moves from the \_\_\_\_\_ of envy and hate
  - a. To say that Jesus' sacrifice literally gives \_\_\_\_\_ to the community
- 2. Jesus is an \_\_\_\_\_ for us to follow
  - a. We are to love \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. But Jesus' sacrifice was like no other
  
- 4. Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ his glory, his power, his life in heavenly \_\_\_\_\_ with the Father to come and die for us

B. Practical Example

- 1. One way to show love is to \_\_\_\_\_ to those in need
  
- 2. Check this out
  - a. Two words for life – zoe and bios
    - i. Zoe = physical/spiritual \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii. Bios = life, but often means \_\_\_\_\_ possessions
  - b. We are not giving \_\_\_\_\_ – zoe – to our brothers and sisters who are suffering
  - c. “\_\_\_\_\_ bios (possessions) can interfere with \_\_\_\_\_ zoe”

VIII. A Tricky Passage – Vv. 19-24

A. Common Interpretation

- 1. John is trying to shore up his readers' \_\_\_\_\_ in their faith

B. Some Interpretational Decisions

- 1. In the NIV, the word “heart” (kardia) is made to be synonymous with \_\_\_\_\_

2. The word *peitho* is translated “set at rest” or \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. When in most every other use of the word is means “to persuade or \_\_\_\_\_”
  - b. It occasionally means “to trust” or “to \_\_\_\_\_”
3. There is a grammatical \_\_\_\_\_ that is ignored in the NIV
  - a. 3:19 actually begins, “This, then...” or “And by this...”
  - b. So John is carrying \_\_\_\_\_ his discussion of loving others by giving of ourselves and our material goods
4. These verses are actually a \_\_\_\_\_ warning

C. The Point of the Passage

1. This is how we know we \_\_\_\_\_ to the truth
  - a. We don’t \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts toward those in need
2. Therefore, we must \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts in the presence of God to stay open
3. And whenever we find our hearts \_\_\_\_\_ to close
  - a. We must \_\_\_\_\_ this motivation
4. God is \_\_\_\_\_ than our hearts
  - a. And he \_\_\_\_\_ and sees everything
  - b. Whatever we do, it will not go \_\_\_\_\_ by God
5. His \_\_\_\_\_ far exceeds anything we could give

D. Confidence – Vv. 21-22

1. If we live generously, we have \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. And we live in step with him, we have a \_\_\_\_\_ with him
2. We get whatever we ask
  - a. Because we are so close to God, our hearts beat with his...so our prayers are aligned with his will

E. Summing it Up – Vv. 23-24

1. \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ and \_\_\_\_\_ each other
  - a. All of which is done by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit
2. It is when we see the Spirit’s \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives that we know God lives in us

IX. Application: More Than \_\_\_\_\_

A. Learning God’s Word

B. Experiencing God

1. Find where God is at \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ him in it

