

## MOTIVATION TO OBEDIENCE

*From Christ's Future Appearance*

**1 John 2:28 – 3:3**

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Sunday, November 26,

- I. To be ready for Jesus Christ's coming, abide in Him as little children. 1 John 2:28-29**
- II. The Father's great love has made us His children and it distinguishes us from the world. 1 John 3:1**
- III. Understanding our present position as children of God and our future hope of being like Jesus when He comes will motivate us to grow in holiness now. 1 John 3:2-3**

True believers will remain in fellowship with Jesus Christ and experience the blessings that come through communion with Him. *What are the blessings of abiding in Jesus Christ?*

**You will be ...**

- 1. Confident at His Coming. 2:28**
- 2. Certain You Are His Child. 2:29 – 3:1**
- 3. Conformed to Jesus Christ. 3:2**
- 4. Consistent in Your Consecration. 3:3**

### SUMMARY

- The test is the moral one.
- The standard is the righteous and pure Christ Himself.
- The motivation is the fact that we will see Him and He will see us.
- The natural correlation is that true believers should live a righteous and pure life.

*Have you ever lacked confidence or felt too ashamed to pray to God because of your lack of obedience? If we feel that way now in our prayers, imagine what it will be like when we stand face to face with Almighty God. Be motivated by Christ's coming again to obey Him now.*

## QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION/DISCUSSION

*In Our Growth Groups and In Your Personal Devotions*

**1 John 2:28 – 3:3**

- Would you take a moment and thank the Lord for your Growth Group host/leader and pray fervently for them and their family?
- During our December break from Growth Groups, would you pray for each member of your group by name and thank God for them?

### 2:28-29

- Why is "abiding" important in the Christian life? How is abiding different from "getting saved"?
- How do you think you will react when you first see Jesus in glory?
- Do you agree or disagree that believers may feel momentary shame at the Lord's coming? Why?
- What are some things that might cause someone to be ashamed at Christ's appearing?
- Some Christians argue that the simple answer of abiding in Christ does not work for difficult, deep-seated problems. Agree/Disagree? Why?

### 3:1

- Practically, how can we keep our first love for Jesus Christ fresh and vibrant?
- Since sinful anger is contrary to God's love, how should an angry dad or mom overcome this sin toward his/her children?
- Does God love the entire world in the same way and to the same degree that He loves His children? Give biblical support.
- "*Friendship with the world is hostility toward God*" (James 4:4). How then should we properly love worldly people?

### 3:2-3

- How can a promise of seeing Jesus inspire Christians to pursue holiness? Why is holiness the natural response to Christian hope?
- Why aren't believers different than our culture (or why does it seem like they aren't different) in morality and moral scandals?
- If we honestly do not yearn for the Lord's return, is there a problem? What should we do about it?
- How can a depressed Christian gain hope? What steps would you advise?