

# I John

## Chapter Three

**FAITH COMES BY HEARING:** Read Chapter 3

### **SUMMARY: Verses 1-24**

In this chapter John begins to bring to light the express nature of God's unfathomable love. The love of God is so profound that the world's mindset cannot even understand it. So profound is this love it obliterates sin.

1. God's love is so profound He can take even the vilest of all sinner and not only make them a saint but call them a CHILD!
2. Fellowship and life with God isn't a moment - it's a lifestyle. What you are today isn't even close to what you will be when you see Jesus face to face. This longing to one day see Jesus is described by John as a HOPE. The word HOPE here is not just a sense of optimistic outlook or wishful thinking. It is HOPE that is a sense of CONFIDENT EXPECTATION. This kind of hope causes you to LIVE PURE.
3. We are called to live PURE. How different this is than the mindset of many Christians today.
4. In God there is ZERO sin. Therefore, He doesn't tolerate sin. Sin is not just your mistakes. Sin is LAWLESSNESS.
5. Continual sin is a sign you are not in fellowship with God. Continual sinning is seen as LAWLESS behavior is deemed as UNNATURAL to the children of God.
6. John states that we can tell who BELONGS TO GOD. How so? RIGHTEOUS LIVING and LOVING EACH OTHER.
7. Love is a sure sign you have been born again. It's shown in self sacrifice and a daily life of compassion.
8. God's love is so powerful it should give us assurance to stand before Him. This assurance is to make our prayers bold.
9. The Holy Spirit within you should manifest Himself in your life and conduct proving evidence of your relationship with God.

### **REFLECTION**

1. What verse stuck out the most to you? Why so?
2. What do you think the difference is between the terms SAINT / CHILD?
3. Why would HOPE be connected to LIVING PURE?
4. Why do you think PURITY among Christians is so overlooked?
5. If sin is characterized as LAWLESS and UNNATURAL to God's children, then why does sin seem so LEGAL and NATURAL to many Christians?
6. Do you think it's fair to judge the character traits of Christians? Why or why not?
7. Why do you think John assumes that if you're in continual sin you are of the devil's family? Doesn't that seem judgmental?
8. Do you have assurance today that you know God? Do you have CONFIDENT EXPECTATION that you will see Him one day?

### **APPLICATION**

1. Start seeing yourself as God's CHILD. Don't live like you have to constantly earn God's love.
2. What things in your life / actions / character do you need to eliminate to live PURE?
3. Do you overlook PURITY?
4. Is sin tolerated by you? Do you try to legalize your own wrong actions? Repent and begin to ask God to help you have a HATRED for sin.
5. How is the Holy Spirit evident in your life?

