



13 SEPTEMBER 2026 PM

1 John 3:1-2

TRIBE-11

= a close-knit community with shared identity

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

1 John 3:1-2

INTRODUCTION

A DAUNTING THOUGHT 3:1-2

- President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated on April 15, 1865, just weeks before the end of the Civil War

in July of that year, the Secret Service began...
but not to protect the president...the service
would not be tasked with that until 1901, after
the assassination of William McKinley

instead, the Secret Service began for the sole
purpose of detecting counterfeit currency that
had been increasing during the Civil War

- now, the reason this is import is because of how a
Secret Service agent learned to do their job

not by studying all the counterfeit money
that was on the market

but by studying the genuine article of the
day...the standardized bills that were put
into circulation

1 John 3:10

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

this verse is the key to **chapter three**

just like **1 John 1:5**...

it describes for us what a genuine Christian really is

the one who does righteousness (verb tense)

the one who genuinely loves his brother

BTW: love = agape

having written about the fellowship of Christianity... the family of God, etc...John now turns his attention to the sonship of Christianity...what it truly means to be a child of God

verses 1-2 serve as an introduction to this idea

verses 3-10 will discuss those who choose to live righteously

verses 11-24 discuss those who love their brothers

1. PERCEIVING THE LOVE OF GOD vs 1

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

THE WONDER OF THIS LOVE

behold = to realize; perceive; to think about; to consider

WOW!!! DA-da-da-da

NOTE: call to mind Let's Make A Deal, etc.

John used this word **19X** in his gospel; **25X** in *Revelation*, but only once in his epistles

he wants us to stop and consider this love for a moment...nothing else, just this

manner = from what country

Matthew 8:27 what manner of man...

this love is **OUT OF THIS WORLD**

The love of God is:

everlasting

Jeremiah 31:3

unconditional

Deuteronomy 7:7

incomprehensible

Ephesians 3:18-19

inseparable

Romans 8:38-39

bestow = to give freely, entirely

sons of God = little children

this is a title reserved for NT saints

Abraham

friend of God

Moses

face to face, lawgiver

David

man after God's heart

Daniel

a man greatly beloved

John Baptist

no greater born of a woman

NOTE: now think about this...**John 3:16** rightly says God loved the entire world enough to send Jesus to die...as His children, we enjoy a love far beyond that

just to make this really interesting: there are three ways to get into a family

born into it	the LIFE principle
adopted into it	the LEGAL principle
married into it	the LOVE principle

John 3:5-6

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Romans 7:4

Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

Romans 8:14-15

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

THE WORLD MISSES THE POINT

...therefore the world knoweth us not,
because it knew him not.

the world might know a lot of things...technology,
science, medicine, etc.

...but it doesn't know us

we are strangers and pilgrims **1 Peter 2:11**

we can't fit in no matter how hard we try

because it doesn't know God!

John 1:11 He came unto his own...

1 Corinthians 2:11-14 spiritually discerned

2. PREPARING TO LIVE WITH GOD vs 2

Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

OUR CURRENT STANDING

right **NOW** we are the sons of God

the philosophy of most religions is that you can't know if you are truly saved until after you die

others believe you can **LOSE** your salvation

how does one become un-born???

we have a present-tense salvation

Galatians 2:20

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Philippians 3:20

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ:

WE ARE

I AM

OUR COMING STATUS

...and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

A Hidden Mystery

...it doth not yet appear

1 Corinthians 2:9 eye hath not seen

the Bible tells us we have much to anticipate

A HOLY MOMENT

...when he shall appear, we shall be like him;

Philippians 3:21 Who shall change our vile body,
that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body...

1 Corinthians 15:35-58 resurrection chapter

verse 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

A HAPPY MEETING

...for we shall see him as he is.

cf Mount of Transfiguration

Matthew 17:1-9 Mark 9:2-13 Luke 9:28-36

the only thing John says about it in his gospel was:

John 1:14 ...(and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,)

AS HE IS...

Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the pure in heart:
for they shall see God.