



Hope
FOR THE SEASON

1 John 3:1-3

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¹ Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.



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² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.



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³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.



1. We are Loved



¹ Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us...

The word used for "manner" in the text is *potapos*, a word primarily meaning "from what country," or "of what sort."

Love (agape) is not a mere emotion that God feels, nor is it simply something God thinks about and then does. Love is who/what God is.

2. We are Children



...that we should be called children of God!

Three ways to become family:

- **Adopted: Law**
- **Marriage: Love**
- **Birth: Life**

We have born (again) into His family...

God's love provides the way for us to be called "children of God" (*tekna Theou*).

3. We are Purified



³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

***Hagnos* (“pure”) refers to cleanliness and holiness of life.**

It expresses freedom from sin.

He makes us holy and sets us free from the burden of sin.

4. It Will Get Better



...but we know that when He is revealed,
we shall be like Him,

The verb “appear” (*ephanerōthē*, used three times in 2:28–3:3) means we will be publicly displayed, which places a guarantee on what we will be.

The “not yet” (future) will be even greater than the “and now.”

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Meeting Christ is the hope we have...

Now,

Christmas

and when He returns.

