

**Text**

**1 John 3**

**1 John 3:1**

<sup>1</sup> Think how much the Father loves us. He loves us so much that he lets us be called his children, as we truly are. But since the people of this world did not know who Christ is, they don't know who we are. (Contemporary English Version, "CEV")

John wrote in his gospel that we are given the right to become children of God by receiving Him and we are born again by God's will, not man's (**John 1:12-13**).

"When we feel like we are not good enough to be loved by God, we should remember that God's love is greater than our doubts. We must silence the sounds of condemnation so we can hear the voice of God's loving assurance and remember that He has selected us to be part of His family." (The VOICE)

**1 John 3:3**

<sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope [confidently placed] in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure (holy, undefiled, guiltless). (Amplified Bible, "AMP")

<sup>3</sup> This hope makes us keep ourselves holy, just as Christ is holy. (CEV)

Paul describes this purification process in **2 Corinthians 3:18**, and James describes it in **James 1:25**.

**1 John 3:4**

<sup>4</sup> Those who live sinful lives are disobeying God. Sin is disobedience. (GOD'S WORD Translation)

<sup>4</sup> Everyone who commits sin breaks God's law, for that is what sin is, by definition—a breaking of God's law. (J.B. Phillips New Testament)

**1 John 3:5**

John defines what it means to be "in Him" in **1 John 2:6**.

**1 John 3:6**

John defines what it means to "know Him" in **1 John 2:3**.

- 1 John 3:8** Works: *ergon* (e'r-gon) "...any product whatever, any thing accomplished by hand, art, industry, or mind...sins and all the misery that springs from them..."<sup>i</sup>
- 1 John 3:9** Compare this verse with what Jesus said in **Matthew 7:18**.  
We need to abhor sin (**Romans 12:9**).
- 1 John 3:10** <sup>10</sup> By this the children of God and the children of the devil are clearly identified: anyone who does not practice righteousness [who does not seek God's will in thought, action, and purpose] is not of God, nor is the one who does not [unselfishly] love his [believing] brother. (AMP)  
Jesus said that humanity would know that we are his disciples by our love for each other in **John 13:35**.  
Reference **John 13:34-35; 15:12**.
- 1 John 3:13** Jesus addressed this in **John 15:18-19**.
- 1 John 3:16** <sup>6</sup> By this we know [and have come to understand the depth and essence of His precious] love: that He [willingly] laid down His life for us [because He loved us]. And we ought to lay down our lives for the believers. (AMP)
- 1 John 3:18** <sup>18</sup> Little children (believers, dear ones), let us not love [merely in theory] with word or with tongue [giving lip service to compassion], but in action and in truth [in practice and in sincerity, because practical acts of love are more than words]. (AMP)
- 1 John 3:19** <sup>19</sup> This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts in God's presence. (Common English Bible, "CEB")  
<sup>19</sup> When we love others, we know that we belong to the truth, and we feel at ease in the presence of God. (CEV)
- 1 John 3:20** <sup>20</sup> Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and he knows everything. (New Living Translation)

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<sup>i</sup> ""Greek Lexicon :: G2041 (KJV)." Blue Letter Bible. Sowing Circle. Web. 31 Oct, 2015.  
<<http://www.blueletterbible.orghttps://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm>>.

**1 John 3:21**

confidence: *parrēsia* (pär-rā-sē'-ä) "...free and fearless confidence, cheerful courage, boldness, assurance..."<sup>ii</sup>

<sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if we feel at ease in the presence of God, we will have the courage to come near him. (CEV)

**1 John 3:22**

<sup>22</sup> We receive whatever we ask from him because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. (CEB)

When combined with verse 23, it reads, "Whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another."

Compare this with **1 John 5:14** and **James 4:1-3**.

**1 John 3:24**

<sup>24</sup> The one who follows His teaching and walks this path lives in an intimate relationship with God. How do we know that He lives in us? By the gift of His Spirit. (VOICE)

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<sup>ii</sup> "Greek Lexicon :: G3954 (NASB)," Blue Letter Bible. Sowing Circle. Web. 1 Nov, 2015.  
<<http://www.blueletterbible.orghttps://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm>>.