

A Father's Love

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Text: 1 John 3:1-3

Introduction. We enjoy living in friendly confines.

- There are however, places not so spiritually and emotionally accommodating. Places of rejection and hostility, places where no warm voices or friendly smiles exist!
- Kingdom living is challenging and formidable in this world. Jesus called discipleship a narrow way that leads to life!

1. We are given Fatherly love that is lavishly bestowed: "Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us..."

- John said to believers, "Look at the nature of this love that has been lavishly and abundantly given to us!"

2. We are elevated to the familial position as children: "...that we should be called the sons (children) of God."

- We are given the most intimate status possible within the most unfriendly confines imaginable!

3. We are gifted with an inheritance beyond our wildest dreams: "...and it doth not 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..."

- Commonly called the blessed hope; and what makes it so blessed?

4. We are encouraged with a monumental challenge: "And every man (person) that has this hope in him purifieth himself, even as He is pure. "

- Here's the challenge in the light of our blessed hope: although we await His appearing and our transformation, we are told to seek all that He is (middle voice Greek verb) and all that we can become in this life!