

1 John 2:28-29

1-18-23 Chris Young

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And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

And now, little children, abide in Him

John persuades with love, not to listen to false teaching that would deceive or lead one astray, but, to abide (remain, stay, or continue) and never desert the Lord.

We are to keep trusting, keep on depending, and never stop believing.

John 15:7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

John 15:10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

2 John 1:9 Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

Until our journey in this life is over, we are to remain faithfully committed, and walk in such a way that is pleasing to the Lord. God is the One who sustains and makes us stand firm in Christ, so that when we stand before Him, we will be blameless. He has set us apart, put His seal on us and given us His Spirit as a guarantee. The one who remains steadfast in faith will abide in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 24:13 But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

1 Corinthians 1:8 He will sustain you to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

Why is it important for us to abide in Christ?

Something to ponder: Am I daily abiding in Christ?

That when He appears

When He appears is not an uncertainty, but a fact! Christ will return and gather His church. We are to eagerly await His return where we will appear with Him in glory and receive the unfading crown of glory.

John 14:1-4 “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.”

Colossians 3:4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Titus 2:13 Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

1 Peter 5:4 And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

2 Timothy 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

Revelation 1:7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

Revelation 22:12-13 Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

How should we be living until Christ comes back?

Something to ponder: Am I anticipating and ready for Christ’s return at any moment?

We may have confidence

What words come to mind when you think of the word confidence?

This word means a boldness or assurance.

Believers, we will have assurance at Christ’s return, of our salvation, and our relationship with Him. We will not be disappointed of our hopes, but will meet Him as our joy and crown, and together, stand without fault, and blameless, acknowledged by Him as His people. We will be admitted into the joy of our Lord. We have confidence in knowing the Lord will be with us to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Colossians 1:22 He has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

Philippians 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 3:13 So that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Why is boldness/confidence necessary in the life of a believer?

And not be ashamed before Him at His coming

Believers, we do not have to be ashamed at His coming. We will be ready to stand before the Lord with anticipation, clothed in His righteousness and holiness, because we abided in Jesus Christ until the end. Jesus was the focus of our lives.

Isaiah 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Romans 5:5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Philippians 1:20 As it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

1 Peter 2:6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.

We want to be those who are found worthy when we stand before the Lord face-to-face. We do not know when He will return or call us home, but we do want to be ready!

Malachi 3:2 "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderers' soap."

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What does our love for one another increasing have to do with “our hearts blameless in holiness?”

Something to ponder: Am I living a surrender life of holiness?

There will be those who have denied or were ashamed of Him. This word ashamed means to disgrace, put to shame, shrink, retract, cringe, flinch.

Everlasting shame and contempt will cover those, who ungratefully, unfaithfully, and perversely have departed from the truth, and shall be disowned of Jesus in the day of his appearing and glory. Thomas Haweis

Matthew 7:21-23 Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

Matthew 10:32-33 So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Mark 8:38 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

Only those who are found in Christ on judgment day will have boldness. That is a promise of God! With boldness and confidence we can stand before God, unashamed in holiness and blameless! Let us honor and magnify Christ until our earthly death or Christ returns.

1 John 2:29

If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

If you know that He is righteous

Righteous is a state of being right, equitable (fair) in character or act; innocent, holy.

God sets the standard that defines true righteousness, and His power is what enables it. The righteousness of God is evident in the way He consistently acts in accord with His own character. God always acts righteously; every action is consistent with His “Godly” character.

Deuteronomy 32:4 The Rock! His work is perfect, for all His ways are just; a God of faithfulness and without injustice, righteous and upright is He.

Psalm 11:7 For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; the upright will behold His face.

Psalm 119:137 Righteous are You, O Lord, and upright are Your judgments.

God is the standard for our righteousness. Any righteousness that a believer has comes only from the Lord when they received new birth.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Ephesians 4:24 And to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

1 Peter 1:23 Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever.

You know that everyone who practices righteousness

Righteousness is a way of living; imitating Jesus based on the divine, moral law given in the Bible. It is doing what God says we should do and living how He wants us to live. When we are walking in righteousness, we will do what is right toward God and others.

Titus 2:12-14 Training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

1 John 3:7 Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

1 John 3:10 By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother.

In what ways does righteousness look like in a believer's life?

Something to ponder: As a child of God, am I living a life of righteousness?

Is born of Him

How do we know that we are children of God?

All of God's children are like Himself. Everyone who is righteous is born of Him through the resurrection of Jesus Christ through faith. Those born of God will resemble their heavenly Father's righteous and holy nature.

Acts 22:14 Then he said, "The God of our fathers has chosen you that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth."

John 1:3 Who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Romans 8:14-17 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. And if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Galatians 3:26 For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Righteous living and holiness are the result of salvation. God is the Holy One, and the only source, of holiness. As His children, we ought to live pure and holy lives. Our lives should look different from the worlds. As we remain steadfast towards our goal of righteousness, we will display the characteristics of God’s righteousness. We have been made partakers of the Divine nature through Jesus Christ and the Spirit, without which, we could not live a holy life. His children, chosen before the foundation of the world receive the gift of eternal life.

Ephesians 1:3-6 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

1 Peter 1:13-16 Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

Something to ponder: Does my life represent my Lord accurately?

“If we are righteous, in the true and proper sense, doing that which is right toward God and toward men, to ourselves, to our families, to our neighbours, to the world at large, to the Saviour who died for us, then we are true Christians; and then, no matter how soon he may appear, or how solemn and overwhelming the scenes that shall close the world, we shall not be ashamed or confounded, for we shall hail him as our Saviour, and rejoice that the time has come that we may go and dwell with him for ever.” Albert Barnes’ NT Commentary