

# *Divine Truths of 1 John 3*



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1 John 3 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.

We're called the children of God because we are His children! We're His children by having been created by Him: we're also His children, spiritually & literally, through the New-birth!

The world doesn't know who the Body of Christ is, because they don't know who Jesus is!

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.

As He is, so are we, in this world! We know Him in spirit & in truth. As He is the fullness of the Godhead, we are His fullness! We are in the image & likeness of Jesus Himself!

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

We can't spiritually purify ourselves: what we can do is yield to the cleansing of our patterns in life through the cleansing Jesus has already provided! Because He is pure, & He is in us, we are pure before the Lord positionally, so as we yield to the leadership of the Spirit, our lifestyle gets purified conditionally! We can live a purified life by the power of the Spirit, because Jesus IS our purity!

4 Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.

You can't help but to commit sin, when you have the nature of sin! Sin is failure to keep the law!

Since we're not under the law, there's no reckoning of sin against us, ever again!

5 And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin.

Because Jesus carried away our sins, & our sinfulness was laid upon Him, not only is there no sin in Him (He was sinless), there's no sin in us! As there's no sin in Him, there's no sin in us! Sin has been put away forever, by the one sacrifice of Jesus!

6 Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.

To abide in the Lord doesn't mean to act right all the time: it means to be alive in Him!

While your behavior is a witness to people, it doesn't affect God's opinion of you! He knows you as being dead to sin & alive in righteousness. And not because of or by what you do or don't do, but because of & through what Jesus has done, & what the Holy Spirit did in you!

Christians are sinless, in the eyes & economy of God! Those who are abiding in sinfulness are those that don't possess the gift of righteousness & aren't Born-again! You can't be deemed as both righteous & sinful! You're either the righteousness of God IN CHRIST, or you're not!

Everyone has had righteousness provided legally, by Jesus at Calvary, but not everyone has received it personally!

7 Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

We can't practice enough righteousness in our entire lifetime to ever merit the right to be called righteous: we were made righteous, free & clear, through redemption at the cross, & we now are righteous, have righteousness, & we 'do' righteous things, which flows from the nature of God in us! The nature of righteousness precedes the works of righteousness! If our good deeds that are deemed as righteous don't flow from the Spirit of righteousness, then they're merely works of self-righteousness! The fruits of righteousness flow from the roots of righteousness!

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8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

In proper context, this doesn't mean that if & when you sin in your life that you are unsaved, or a devilish person; what it is saying is that sinful people (unsaved) sin by the nature of sin in them!

Jesus destroyed, obliterated, & put away the authority & power of the devil, & stripped him of his dominion among mankind, including the power to accuse & condemn us!

9 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

Here is a powerful yet underappreciated spiritual truth: Born-again people can't sin before God!

10 In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.

Here's a comparative statement: we that have the nature of God live in the reality & fruits of righteousness, & the love of God that's in us flows from us to others, while those that aren't born of God live in His righteousness or unconditional love!

11 For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another,

Because God is love, & He is in us, & His love is in us, we can live in His love for people!

We're not called to love people religiously or mechanically: we can yield to the Spirit of love & allow Him to manifest His love freely, fully, & joyously towards everyone!

12 not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous.

Here's a contrast that applies to the difference in natures: sinful vs. righteous, which manifested as fruit in works: this is a very early peek into the two natures of mankind!

13 Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you.

You are an alien life-form in the earth, as a Heavenly ambassador: the world doesn't comprehend you, just as people didn't fully comprehend Jesus (even His disciples).

14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death.

The fulfillment of this verse doesn't depend on your works! It was fulfilled by Jesus, & because His nature & life abides in us, we do love the brethren. It's our divine nature to love people! If you're having trouble loving people, that doesn't mean that you're not saved, it indicates that you're not flowing in the revelation of His love for you, to you, with you, in you, & through you!

15 Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

Here again is a contrast of saved vs. unsaved natures! It's referring to natures, not actions!

16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

Here's the ultimate demonstration of divine love! We don't need to die for people to love them, we need to demonstrate His love for them in being a living blessing to them!

17 But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

Because God is in us, & is fully committed to helping people, we need to & can yield to His compassion for people, & allow His love to show & demonstrate itself in our ministering to them!

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18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

Another way of saying to not be only a hearer of His Word (of love), but be a doer (releaser) of it!

19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.

The Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit (heart) that we are His child, & the Holy Spirit can't condemn us, but will convict us of righteousness & love, confirming these fruits through us as we yield to Him!

20 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

Even when our mind or heart convicts us of missing God, the Holy Spirit convicts us of being His righteousness at all times!

21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

Becoming led by the Holy Spirit brings encouragement & boldness in our union with God!

22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

God doesn't award us based upon our performance: He's already provided us with everything that pertains to life & godliness. As His children, we're His heirs, co-heirs with Jesus. His commandments have been fulfilled for us by Jesus, & that fulfillment has been placed in us by the Holy Spirit. Thus we have confidence with the Lord, we trust in His faithfulness, & by nature, we walk in agreement with His principles!

23 And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

Because we believe in Jesus & have been placed into His kingdom & family, we celebrate union with Him by flowing in love toward people!

24 Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

The fruit of being alive in the Root, (Jesus), is relationship, fellowship, friendship, not only with Jesus by His Spirit, but with His people, in His love!

This chapter isn't a treatise on how to do His works for Him by our own power, rather, it's a revelation of who we are because of whose we are, & what we have because of what has been done for us, by Father, Son, & Holy Spirit!

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