

First John

1 Jn. 3:1-5



1 Jn. 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet 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.

3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.



6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.

7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.



I. GOD'S LITTLE CHILDREN – LIVING AT HOME IN THE SPHERE WHERE THE FATHER IS LOVED, 1:1-3:24

A. How We Share the Family Life, 1:1-2:29

1. The Beginning of that Life, 1:1-4
2. The Basis of that Life, 1:5-2:2
3. The Betrayal of that Life, 2:3-11
4. The Beauty of that Life, 2:12-14
5. The Boundaries of that Life, 2:15-23
6. The Blessings of that Life, 2:24-29



B. How We Show the Family Life, 3:1-24

1. New Life in Christ, 3:1-10

a. Our high calling as sons, 3:1-2

(1) Its commencement in the past, 3:1

(a) The love that sought us, 3:1a-b

i. An exclamation, 3:1a “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us...”



Original Word: ποταπός

Transliteration: potapos

Definition: of what kind, of what manner

<http://biblehub.com/greek/4217.htm>

Bestow = to present as a gift; give; confer (usually followed by *on* or *upon*): <http://www.dictionary.com/browse/bestow?s=t>

ii. An explanation, 3:1b "...that we should be called the sons of God..."

Original Word: ἵνα

Transliteration: hina

Definition: in order that, so that.

hína (a subordinating conjunction) – *for the purpose that* (in order that), looking to the aim (intended result) of the verbal idea. *hína* ("for the purpose that") is "the *semantically marked* (dramatic) way of expressing *purpose* in Greek (as compared for example to the plain infinitive)" (G. Archer). <http://biblehub.com/greek/2443.htm>

Original Word: τέκνον


Transliteration: teknon

Definition: a child, descendent, inhabitant.

téknōn – properly, a *child*; (figuratively) anyone living in *full dependence* on the heavenly *Father*, i.e. fully (*willingly*) relying upon the Lord in *glad submission*. This prompts God to *transform* them into *His likeness*.

téknōn ("a *child* living in *willing dependence*") illustrates how we must all live in utter *dependence* upon the Lord (moment-by-moment), drawing guidance (care, nurture) from our heavenly Father. (*téknōn*) emphasizes the childlike (*not childish*) *attitude of heart* that willingly (gladly) submits to the Father's plan. We profoundly learn this as we are receptive to Christ speaking His *rhēma*-word within to impart faith (cf. Ro 8:16,17 with Ro 10:17, Gk text).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/5043.htm>



(b) The love that separates us, 3:1c
“...therefore the world knoweth us not,
because it knew him not.”

Original Word: γινώσκω

Transliteration: ginóskō

Definition: I am taking in knowledge, come to know, learn; aor: I ascertained, realized.

ginóskō – properly, *to know*, especially through *personal experience* (*first-hand* acquaintance). <http://biblehub.com/greek/1097.htm>

(2) Its continuation in the present, 3:2a
“Beloved, now are we the sons of God...”



(3) Its consummation in the future, 3:2b-d

(a) A hidden mystery, 3:2b "...and it doth not yet appear what we shall be..."

(b) A holy moment, 3:2c "...but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him..."

Original Word: οἶδᾱ

Transliteration: eidó

Definition: I know, remember, appreciate.

eídō (oída) – properly, to *see* with *physical* eyes (cf. Ro 1:11), as it naturally bridges to the *metaphorical* sense: *perceiving* ("*mentally seeing*"). This is akin to the expressions: "*I see what you mean*"; "*I see what you are saying*." [to know intrinsically]

eídō ("*seeing* that becomes *knowing*") then is a *gateway* to grasp spiritual truth (reality) from a physical plane. (*eídō*) then is physical seeing (sight) which should be the constant bridge to mental and spiritual seeing (*comprehension*).

1 Cor. 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

(c) A happy meeting, 3:2d "...for we shall see him as he is."

b. Our holy conduct as saints, 3:3-10

(1) As to our standing, 3:3-5

(a) A purifying hope, 3:3

1 Jn. 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.



1 Jn. 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: ...

6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, **even as he walked**. ...

29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness **is born of him**.

1 Jn. 3:7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, **even as he is righteous**. ...

16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, **because he** laid down his life for us: and **we ought** to lay down our lives for the brethren.

1 Jn. 4:17 Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because **as he is, so are we in this world**.

Mt. 5:8 Blessed are **the pure in heart**: for they shall see God.



1 Tim. 5:22 Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: **keep thyself pure**.

2 Cor. 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, **are changed into the same image** from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

(b) A present hope, 3:4-5

God's demands and

i. The commandments of the law, 3:4

1 Jn. 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.



Original Word: ἀνομία

Transliteration: anomia

Definition: lawlessness, iniquity, disobedience, sin, **transgression**.

anomía (from A "not" and *nómos*, "law") – properly, without law; *lawlessness*; the utter disregard for God's law (His written and living Word). *anomía* ("lawlessness") includes the *end-impact* of *law breaking* – i.e. its negative influence on a person's *soul* (*status* before God).

<http://biblehub.com/greek/458.htm>

Mt. 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work **iniquity**.

Mt. 24:12 And because **iniquity** shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

Rom. 4:7 Saying, Blessed are they whose **iniquities** are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.



2 Cor. 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with **unrighteousness**? and what communion hath light with darkness?

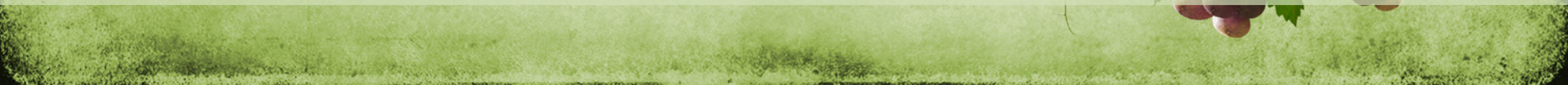
Titus 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all **iniquity**, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Heb. 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their **iniquities** will I remember no more.

Heb. 10:17 And their sins and **iniquities** will I remember no more.

ii. The character of the Lord, 3:5

1 Jn. 3:5 And ye know that **he was manifested to take away our sins**; and in him is no sin



Original Word: οἶδα

Transliteration: eídō

Definition: I know, remember, appreciate.

eídō (oída) – properly, to *see* with *physical* eyes (cf. Ro 1:11), as it naturally bridges to the *metaphorical* sense: *perceiving* ("*mentally seeing*"). This is akin to the expressions: "*I see what you mean*"; "*I see what you are saying.*" [to know intrinsically]

eídō ("*seeing* that becomes *knowing*") then is a *gateway* to grasp spiritual truth (reality) from a physical plane. (*eídō*) then is physical seeing (sight) which should be the constant bridge to mental and spiritual seeing (*comprehension*). <http://biblehub.com/greek/1492.htm>





Conclusion

2 Cor. 5:18 And all things are of God, **who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ**, and hath **given to us the ministry of reconciliation**;

19 To wit, that **God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself**, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

20 Now then **we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, **who knew no sin**; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.