

SEVEN PRICELESS FACTS ABOUT BELIEVERS -1 John 3

I. They are children of God - v. (1,2)

Foundation source of all righteousness

How precious the name children

Behold - John 1:29 - directs attention

What manner - how great, how free, his love has been bestowed upon us.

Children of God - idea of birth from God. The world did not know him.

II. They shall be like Jesus when He comes - (v. 2)

We are children waiting for a known inheritance...then we shall be children in full possession.

We have not yet seen all the glories.

Shall see Him - we should become more like him everyday entire likeness.

Spiritual capacities.

Job - "I know that in my flesh I shall see God." This repression is my hope as a child of God. We shall see our Lord.

This takes place when Jesus comes again.

III. They do not make sin a practice - (5,6,9,10)

v. 5 - Incompatibility of sin in the lives of God's children.

We know that Christ came and appeared in the flesh for the purpose of taking away sin.

Sin is alien from Christ. He had no stain of it on himself...he is free from all sin.

v. 6 - "abideth in" more than just an earthly friend or admirer of Jesus, but a personal contact with a personal Christ.

"Sinneth not" - Luther said, "does not persist in sin, does not allow sin to reign over him."

The life of sin excludes God. In the child of God is the hatred of sin. In the child of the devil the love of it.

If the child of God falls into sin it is an act against his spiritual nature...it is as of taking poison.

Hath not seen, etc. the sinner shows in proportion to his sin his sight and knowledge of the spiritual.

The realization of Christ's existence is the result of spiritual knowledge. *Does not buy on sinning - The one who keeps on sinning is proof he has not the spiritual knowledge.*

v. 9 "His seed" deposited in him abides and grows and chokes out the old nature.

Matt 13:3 - parable of the sower
Dropped into the soul of man I Pet. 1:23

"Can not sin" - not only the ideal but the real state of those born of God.

The real child of God never throws down his arms or makes peace with his deadly foe...sin is ever active, but no longer dominant; the normal direction of life's energies in the believer is against sin, He has changed ~~his~~ masters.

He can not go on sinning - Rom. 6:1

v. 10 Children of God - children of the Devil.

John 8:44; Acts 13:10

IV. They have passed from death to life - v. 11-18

v. 11

knows - love the brethren...absence of love is a sign of death. *Migrate from one place to another - already done while here on earth.*

15 - (manslayer) - ill in v. 12. The normal results of hate - Matt. 5:21ff. Whom we hate, we wish to destroy. *John 8:44*

16 - knowledge of - felt that deep love
"Laid down his life" - greatest possible proof of his love.

So ought we - bound not by only outward force of example but by the power of an inward life.

17 - looks as a spectator...hardens his heart.

18 - Actions speak louder than words -

V. They have boldness before God - 19-21

He knows more than our hearts - God knows more of our sin than we do.

General testimony of our hearts. If our hearts condemn us.

This confidence is toward the future day of judgment *in the very presence of God we shall have confident assurance.*

VI. They have power in prayer - 22

The child of God - *complete surrender to the will of the Father.*

When does he have that power?

5:14-15. *1. We keep his commandments.
2. We do the things that are pleasing.*

Powerless in Prayer when we break his commandments + hate our bro.

VIII. They have the gift of the Holy Spirit - 24

Holy Spirit given on Day of Pentecost

John 14:16

Rom 8:14-15

Gal. 4:6