

## **Sermon Handout**

### Future Glory for God's People

#### I John 3:1-3

#### **I. St. John begins a new direction in his teaching 2:28-29**

- a. "And now, children" *cf.* Jn 17:5 – transition from one idea to another
- b. Abiding in Jesus is the sole source of assurance for the believer 2:3-27  
This section echoes St. Paul's words in II Cor 13:5-6 (*cf.* I Jn 3:10)
- c. Therefore, assurance will remain with you until his glorious appearing

#### **II. In Christ, we possess a new identity 3:1-2**

- a. We are called by God "his children"  
*see* Jn 1:12; Rom 8:14; Gal 3:26; Phil 2:15
- b. We are sons of God by adoption Eph 1:3-6, 11 *cf.* Rom 9:6-8; Gal 4:4-7
- c. This is a profound demonstration of God's love v. 1a *cf.* Rom 5:8
- d. Sonship is a present possession v. 2 "**now** we are the sons of God"
- e. In our identity as God's children, we share non-recognition with Jesus
  - i. "the world does not know us"
  - ii. "the world did not recognize him" Jn 1:10-11
  - iii. The world's reaction to Jesus reflects on us v. 1b *cf.* Jn 15:18-21

#### **III. But we do know him – and that knowledge transforms us 3:2-3**

- a. Our future state has not been fully revealed v. 2a
- b. God's current presence sustains us Ex 33:12-16; Mt 28:18-20
- c. At Christ's coming, our transformation will be complete v. 2
  - i. We shall be like him
  - ii. We shall see him in the fullness of his glory
- d. This hope sustains us in the present era
  - i. It is our Christian expectation *cf.* Rom 8:28-32; Heb 6:16-20
  - ii. It motivates us to purity of life v. 3 *cf.* Tit 2:11-13