

## I JOHN 3; December 24; Having Confidence Toward God

### ANALYSIS:

1. What is John calling attention to by opening the chapter with the word, "Behold?" \_\_\_\_\_
2. What effect should the hope of being like Jesus have on one's life?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did Cain kill Abel his brother? \_\_\_\_\_
4. In the light of the love God showers on us, what ought we to be willing to do? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Brethren, if our heart does not condemn our actions, what can we have? \_\_\_\_\_

### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

As righteousness is the family image for God's family (v 7), so the continual practice of sin is the family image of the devil's family (v 8a). Christ's redeeming work was to destroy Satan's works, therefore Christians cannot practice what their Lord came to destroy (v 8b). A member of God's family does not habitually practice sin (v 9a), because God's seed [life] abides in him and he does not sin as a pattern of life (v 9). The apostle now climaxes this section by showing the criterion for identifying the regenerate from the unregenerate. That standard is the practice of righteousness as expressed by brotherly love by the regenerate children of God (vs 10-11,14).

As a regenerated child of God, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to work righteousness pleasing to Him (v 7). Our life in Christ ought to be a glorious contrast to our past and the unregenerate around us (I Pet 4:3-4). Good works glorifies our Heavenly Father (Mt 5:16). Godly living means more than just words, it means deeds and truth (v 18). Let us earnestly strive to live righteously and adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things with many good works (Tit 2:10).

### HELP:

1. The manner [practice, execution] of the love the Father has bestowed upon us His children (v 1).
2. That person continually purifies himself in his daily walk before the Lord (vs 2-3).
3. Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous (v 12).
4. We ought to be willing to lay down our lives for the brethren (v 16).
5. Confidence toward or before God (v 21).