

The Essentials of Our Faith – Studies In I John #11

What Shall We Be?

I John 3:2-3

I. Now and Then

A. Now we are children of God

- Right now
- Life of Christ is in us
- Sons and daughters of God
- But “veiled in flesh”
- Not always seen
- Romans 8:19-25
- “Tip toes”, “craning the neck”
- To see what is now hidden

B. Then, we don’t know

- What we will be like
- What’s going on with all those who have gone before?
- VS 2
- Negatives: no tears, no sorrow, no night, no death, no separation, no weakness, no pain...
- The opposites?
- II Corinthians 12:2-4
 1. Not lawful to utter

C. Or, yet appear how our present circumstances relate to what we shall be

- II Corinthians 4:16-18
 1. Weight of glory
 2. Produced by what we are going through now
 3. Maybe our trials and challenges are not about now but then
 4. Its working out for our glory
 5. Wow!

D. But, three things we do know

- One, He will appear
 1. Christ is coming again
- Two, we will be like Him
 1. Our bodies will become like His
 2. What has become like Him in our character will be revealed

3. How much is becoming like Him now?

4. How much is still in the flesh?

5. II Corinthians 3:18

6. This “light affliction” is producing a likeness to Him.
This is what God is doing in us now.

▪ Three, we will see Him as He is

1. We will be like Him in order to see Him as He is – to have fellowship with Him, but only if we become like Him

E. If this is our hope, then purity now is obvious!

- This is how God is working in your life
- Romans 5:3-5
- Trust in the process
- Use God’s resources
 1. The Word
 2. The Spirit
- The motivation for purity is to be able to have fellowship with Jesus

II. Thoughts

A. Imagine what God wants to do in your life to make you like Christ!

B. Think about your circumstances up to the present

- Hard
- Trying
- Painful
- Challenging
- Satisfying
- God is using them in the purifying process to produce Christ like character.

C. Now we’re still in process, then we will be like Christ – the best is yet to be!