

**Series Title:**                    **“The Kingdom Of Heaven Is At Hand”**  
(*A Study of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ*)

**Sermon Title:**                    **“Our Great, Purifying Hope!”**

**Sermon Text:**                    I John 3:1-3

**Introduction:**

- *The average Christian in America desperately needs*

*“If we correctly understand the both the *significance* and the *seriousness* of Bible prophecy, then it will have an immediate, life-altering effect!”*

**I. The Reality Of Our Present Position** (3:1-2a)

- The word translated “see” is one that always implies **astonishment**, **amazement**, and **admiration**.
- *Given the construction of the Greek this is a command calling for the reader to give **immediate**, **effective**, even **urgent** attention!*

*“Some things grow commonplace over time - but the Father’s great love for us is the kind of experience that should grow stronger and stronger over the years, until it totally dominates every aspect of our lives!”*

- *Ephesians 2:1-5; John 1:12*
- Being a child of God isn’t something that we have to **wait for** in some point in the future. We are **already** His children!

***If you are saved you are a child of the living God, so act like it!***

- If **who** we are is a key motivating factor toward holiness in our lives, then it will transform **how** we are!

**II. The Certainty Of Our Future Hope** (3:2)

- The question that John addresses at this point is this, now that we know who we are, **what will we be like** when Jesus returns?

- *This is both a promise and an assurance of our **future glorification** which all the children of God possess!*
- The word translated “*like*” means “*like or similar and denotes of the same nature or kind as.*”
- *Romans 8:29; Philippians 1:6*
- We belong to Him **now**, and we will be like Him **then**!

### **III. The Reality Of Our Present Position Combined With The Certainty Of Our Future Hope, Motivates Us To **Grow In Holiness Now!** (3:3)**

- These are the **bookends** of divine Grace!
- John doesn't say that *if* we understand prophecy correctly then we **ought** to purify ourselves, rather he says that we **will** purify ourselves!
- The extent to which we have really grasped the teaching of the first 2 verses is proven by the **extent** to which we **implement** the third verse!
- **How do we purify ourselves?**
- *Purity/holiness is the necessary **result** of **hope**!*

***What you are **looking** for will determine what you are **living** for!***

#### **Conclusion:**

***Live now as you shall wish that you had lived when you stand at the judgment seat of Christ!***