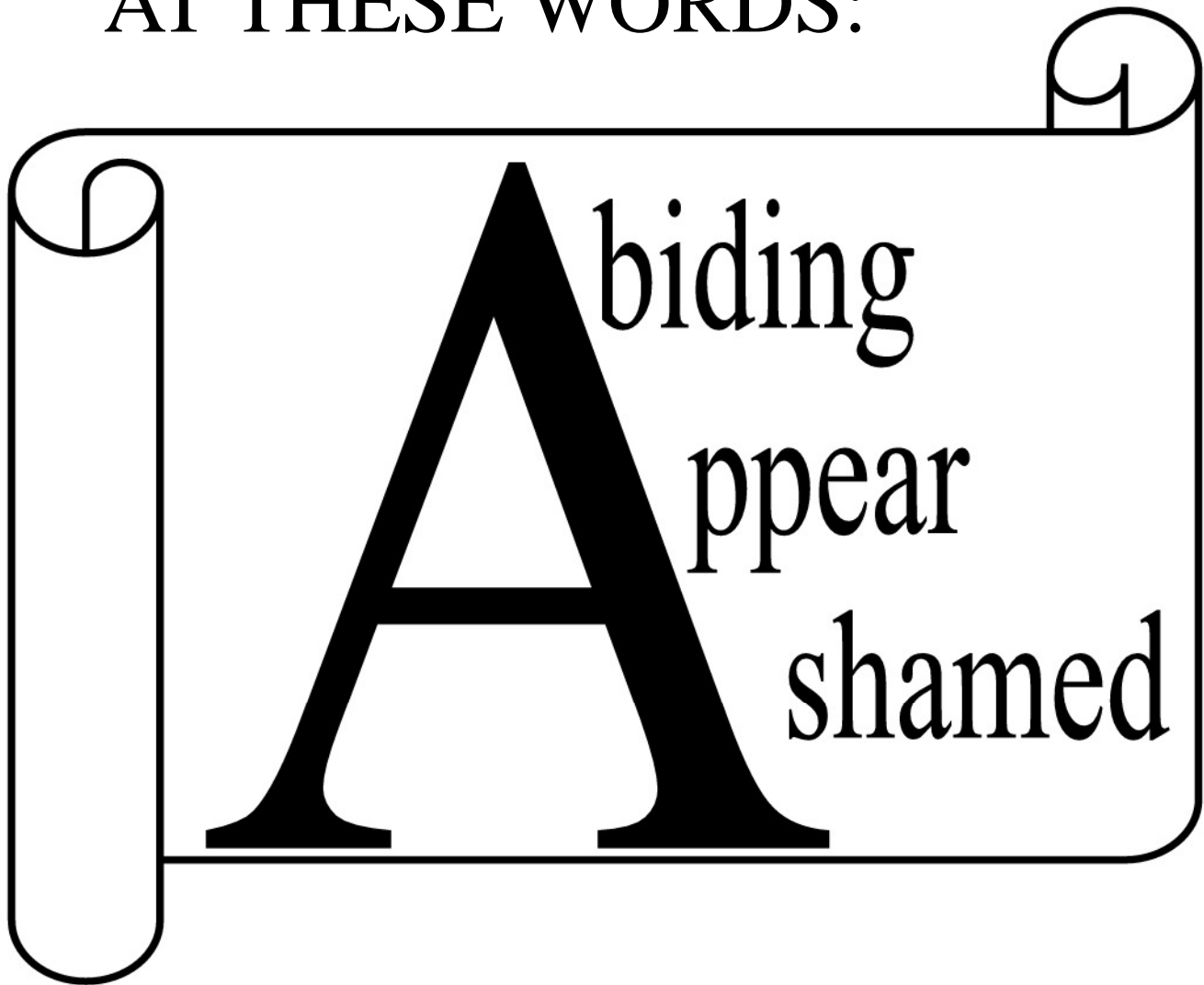


BEREANS LOOK  
AT THESE WORDS:



1Jn 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him;  
that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence,  
and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

# AAA Reasons to Maintain Fellowship With God

(I John 2:28-3:3)

Prepared for the Berean Bible Class  
of  
Victory Baptist Temple—Piedmont, MO

## Introduction:

Three words, all beginning with the letter "A", point to our need to maintain fellowship with our Heavenly Father. Notice them in verse 28—"Abide, Appear, and Ashamed." (Here is the lesson in a nut shell—We must live close to the Lord because He is coming again and we don't want to be ashamed when we see Him!)

1Jn 2:28 And now, little children, **abide** in him; that, when he shall **appear**, we may have confidence, and not be **ashamed** before him at his coming.

1Jn 2:29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him.

1Jn 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

1Jn 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

## I. "Abide" in Him—v. 28 (We can "abide" because we are accepted.)

### A. Stand accepted, "in the Beloved" - Eph. 1:1-7

Eph 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:

Eph 1:2 Grace *be* to you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.

Eph 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Eph 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Eph 1:6 **To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.**

Eph 1:7 ***In whom*** we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

1. It is Christ "in Whom" we stand—v. 7 and HE IS the Beloved of v. 6

## 2. We came to Christ with nothing

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

Eph 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

## 3. We stand secure because of grace— Ro. 5:1, 2

Rom 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Rom 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

## 4. God has "predestined" us to glorify His grace—Eph 1:5, 6

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Eph 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

### B. We should Live in the presence of Christ—"abide" = live in

#### 1. Let us read Psalm 139:1-18

#### 2. We ARE in Christ's presence; let us be aware of it and LIVE like it

### C. Abiding enables fruitfulness and answered prayer —Jn. 15:4-7

Joh 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

Joh 15:5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Joh 15:6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

Joh 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

## II. **"When He Shall Appear"** - I Jn 2:28

### A. The Three appearances of Christ—Heb. 9:24-28

#### 1. He DID appear to put away sin—v. 26

#### 2. He DOES appear in Heaven for us—v. 24

3. He SHALL appear unto the salvation of our bodies—v. 28

B. John's concern centered on "confidence" because of our abiding

1. Those who have hope—"purity themselves"

2. Those abiding are "looking for Him" - Heb. 9:28

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Heb 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

III. **"Ashamed Before Him at His Coming"** - v. 28

A. The fact of the Judgment Seat of Christ—II Cor. 5:8-10

2Co 5:9 Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

2Co 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

B. The nature of that Judgment—I Cor. 3:11-15 and I Cor. 4:5

1Co 3:10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

1Co 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1Co 3:12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;

1Co 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.

1Co 3:14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

1Co 3:15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

1Co 4:4 For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.

1Co 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.