



**“What’s So Amazing?”**

**1 John 3:1-3**

**Perfect Love: The Book of 1 John**

**Introduction:**

1 John 3:1-3 “See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

**I. The Amazing Love of God - Bestowed on Us as Children of God**

1 John 3:1 “See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are.”

**Incredible Fact #1: The love of God is unearthly.**

“See how great a love...” = “Of what country...” – other worldly (cf. Matthew 8:27)

Romans 8:35 ... “who shall separate us from the love of Christ.”

Romans 5:8 “...God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

**Incredible Fact #2: The love of God makes it possible for us to be children of God.**

1 John 3:1 “See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are.”

John 1:12-13 “...as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.”

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”

Romans 5:5 “...the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

**II. The Astounding Ignorance of the World - Blinding Them from Knowing God**

1 John 3:1 “For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.”

**Unbelievable Fact #1: The world does not really know who we are.**

1 John 3:1 “For this reason the world does not know us...”

- Religion is people trying to reach God through their own human effort.
- Biblical Christianity is God reaching man through the death and resurrection of His Son.  
We are aliens and strangers in the eyes of the world (1 Peter 1:1; 2:11).

**Unbelievable Fact #2: The world did not really know God.**

1 John 3:1 “For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.”

- **The world did not know Christ when He came 2,000 years ago.**

John 1:4-5 “In Him [Christ] was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

John 1:11 “He [Christ] came to His own [the Jews], and those who were His own did not receive Him.”

John 3:19-20 “This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.”

- **The world still does not really know Him now.**

John 14:6-10 “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him.” Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me?”

**III. The Astonishing Future We Have – In the Knowledge of Christ’s Return**

1 John 3:2 “Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.”

**Amazing Fact #1: We are certain we are the beloved children of God.**

Cf. Matthew 3:17 “This is My beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased.”

1 Peter 2:9 “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light...”

**Amazing Fact #2: We are certain we are not yet everything we will be.**

1 John 3:2 “...and it has not appeared as yet what we will be...” cf. Romans 8:18-24

Romans 8:29 “For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren.”

**Amazing Fact #3: We are certain Jesus Christ is coming again.**

Titus 2:13 “...looking for the blessed hope and the appearing (i.e. the epiphany) of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus...”

**Amazing Fact #4: We are certain we will be like Jesus when He comes.**

1 Corinthians 2:9 “Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.”

1 Corinthians 15:49 “Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.”

**Amazing Fact #5: We are certain we will see Him just as He is.**

**IV. The Absolute Hope We Have – That Purifies Our Lives**

1 John 3:3 “And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

**Phenomenal Fact #1: The Object of our Hope is Christ.**

Romans 15:12 “There shall come the root of Jesse, and He who arises to rule over the Gentiles. In Him shall the Gentiles hope.”

Isaiah 26:3 “Thou wilt keep in in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee...”

**Phenomenal Fact #2: The Result of Our Hope is Purity.**

1 John 3:3 “And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

“Would I want to be living like this knowing that Christ is coming?”

“Would I want to be doing this when Christ appears?”

- PLAN as if He is coming today.
- PREPARE as if He is coming tomorrow.
- PREACH as if He is coming soon.

1 Corinthians 16:22 “If anyone does not love the Lord, he is to be accursed. Maranatha.”

- O, our Lord come!
- Our Lord has come!
- Our Lord is coming!

2 Peter 3:10-14 “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless...” cf. Revelation 22:20

**Conclusion:** Continue to be amazed...

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS & ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Give an example of the amazing love of God that you have experienced.
2. How would you illustrate the astounding ignorance of the world regarding the gospel?
3. How would you explain the astonishing future you will have when Christ returns?
4. In what way does the absolute hope in Christ’s return purify your life?
5. What did you get most out of this message?