

1 John 3:1-3

Tonight I hope to see more of the riches of the passage by looking at comparison passages. So, let's begin by looking at a few references where we find the concepts used in similar ways. We find scriptural precedent in passages like:

- Isaiah 28:10, 13 - God's Word is "precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little, there a little." Comparing Scripture with Scripture.
- Acts 20:27 - Paul did not shrink from declaring the whole counsel of God.

I. BEHOLD

A. 1 John 3:1 BEHOLD the love by which the Father calls us His children.

- Stop, look carefully, and take in the astonishing reality before you. John is not asking his us to see something with their physical eyes only. He is calling for spiritual perception:
 - "Stop here. Do not move quickly past this. Look at what God has done!"
- BEHOLD* turns our attention away from "*SELF*".

B. Comparison Texts

1. John 1:29 "Behold! The Lamb of God"

"Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

The emphasis: "There He is! Look at Him! Recognize who stands before you!"

2. John 19:5 "Behold the Man!"

"Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, 'Behold the Man!'"

The emphasis: Behold the Man upon whom the Father's judgment fell.

3. Romans 11:22 "Behold" the Goodness and Severity of God

- "Look carefully at God's character and dealings."
- We are not to reduce God to the parts of His character that we find comfortable.
- "Behold" is God's call to turn from self-examination as the source of assurance
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II. "1 JOHN 3:2 WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM

"Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

A. What Does "We Shall Be Like Him" Mean?

- This is the certain destination of every true child of God. We shall be like Christ:
- Glorification does not erase our identity or make us gods. It perfects our humanity and conforms us to the moral likeness of our Savior.
- The words "we know", God's promise is not speculation.
- Christ will appear, we will see Him, and we will be like Him.

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B. Comparison Texts

1. 1 Corinthians 2:9–10 “...Not Yet Seen”

“But as it is written: ‘Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.’ But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.”

2. 1 Corinthians 13:12–13 “Then Face to Face”

“For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”

3. 1 Corinthians 15:52–53 “We Shall Be Changed”

“...For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.”

4. 2 Peter 1:4 “Partakers of the Divine Nature”

“...by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature...”

III. “THIS HOPE IN HIM” - 1 JOHN 3:3

“And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.”

A. Comparison Texts

1. Romans 5:2, 5 Rejoice in the Hope of the Glory

“...through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.... Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

2. Colossians 1:27 Christ in You, (the mystery) the Hope of Glory

“To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

3. Titus 2:13-14 The Purifying Hope

“...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.”

FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE

“And now abide faith, hope, love, these three...” - 1 Corinthians 13:13

- BEHOLDING HIS LOVE The Father’s love, you love Him - He first loved you.
- BELIEVING THE PROMISE BY FAITH Christ Will Appear - You Will Be Changed To Be Like Him.
- BECOMING WHAT HAS BEEN HOPE This Hope Is Certain. Yield To His Purifying Life In You. Rest In This Hope.