

***BELIEVE
BELONG
BECOME***

**A Sermon Series By
Dr. Hampton Drum**

A Place to Become

1 John 3:1-3

Introduction:

*“Grace is God loving, God Stooping, God coming to the rescue,
God giving himself generously in and through Jesus Christ.”*

- John Stott

*“This “Father” business isn’t mere religious talk or an attempt to tap into the power of positive thinking.
If you are a Christian, you have a perfect heavenly Father who loves you and who doesn’t share
any of the failures of your earthly father.”*

- Tony Evans

I. Our God given position before the Father.

A. We have been selected by the Father.

1 John 3:1 *Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God:*

- ◆ His manner of love is revealed in the condition He loved us; **Romans 5:8** *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*
- ◆ His manner of love is revealed in the position He placed us; **Titus 3:7** *That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*
- ◆ His manner of love is revealed in the family He gives us; **Romans 8:17** *And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;*

B. We are slighted by the world.

1 John 3:1 . . . *therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.*

II. Our God given potential before the Father.

A. What we can anticipate in our future.

1 John 3:2 *Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be:*

“He meant us to see Him and live with Him and draw our life from His smile.”
- **A.W. Tozer**

“We are to live in the atmosphere of His love. “

B. What we can actualize in our faith.

1 John 3:2 . . . *but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

- ◆ Crucifying the flesh makes us like Him; **Galatians 2:20 *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:***
- ◆ Living by faith makes us like Him; **Galatians 2:20 . . . *and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.***
- ◆ Suffering makes us like Him; **Philippians 3:10 *That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;***

III. Our God given practice before the Father.

“Remember one day every one of God’s Children will be with Jesus and be like Him—resurrected and without sin.”

- **David Jeremiah**

A. We are to live in an atmosphere of hope.

1 John 3:3 *And every man that hath this hope in him . . .*

B. We are to live in actions of holiness.

1 John 3:3 . . . *purifieth himself, even as he is pure.*

1 Peter 1:15 *But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; (V.16) Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.*