
Living in God's Lavish Love

1st Letter of John chapter 2 v28 to 3 v10

28 And now, dear children, remain in [abide in] fellowship with Christ so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame.

29 Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that all who do what is right are God's children.

3 See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. ² Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. ³ And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure.

⁴ Everyone who sins is breaking God's law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God. ⁵ And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. ⁶ Anyone who continues to live in him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning doesn't know him or understand who he is.

7 Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous. 8 But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. 9 Those who have been born into God's family do not make a practice of sinning, because God's life^[a] is in them. So they can't keep on sinning, because they are children of God. 10 So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers^[b] does not belong to God.

How often do you think about Christ's return?

What do you feel about Christ's return?

- Scared
- Ashamed
- In no hurry to see him
- Pleased
- Confident

Chapter 2 v 28

And now, dear children, continue [remain/abide] in Christ, so that when he appears [returns] we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.

He says we can have “parresia” (confidence) at his
“parousia” (appearing).





Philippians 3v9 (NLT)

I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith.

2nd Corinthians 5 v21 (GNT)

Christ was without sin, but for our sake God made him share our sin in order that in union with him we might share the righteousness of God.

So how do we live UNTIL Christ returns?

Chapter 3 v 10

So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers does not belong to God.

²⁸ And now, dear children, **remain in fellowship with Christ** so that when he returns, you will be full of courage and not shrink back from him in shame.

²⁹ Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that **all who do what is right are God's children.**

³ See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. ² Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. ³ And all who have this eager expectation **will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure.**

⁴ Everyone who sins is breaking God's law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God.

⁵ And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him.

⁶ Anyone who **continues to live in him** will not sin. But anyone who **keeps on sinning** does not know him or understand who he is.

⁷ Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: **When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous,** even as Christ is righteous. ⁸ But when people **keep on sinning,** it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ Those who have been born into God's family **do not make a practice of sinning,** because God's life^[a] is in them. So they **can't keep on sinning,** because they are children of God. ¹⁰ So now we can tell who are children of God and who are children of the devil. Anyone who does not live righteously and does not love other believers^[b] does not belong to God.

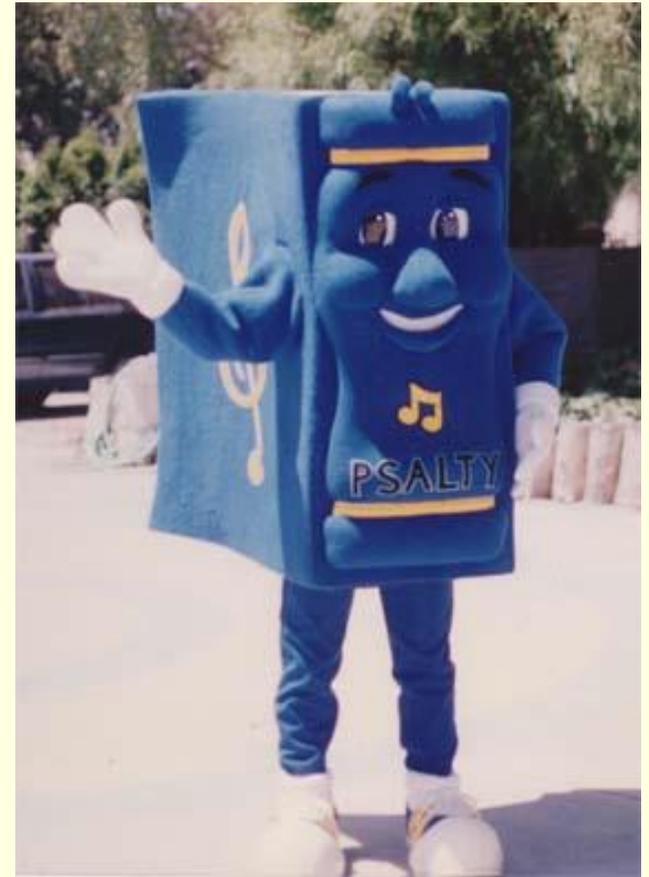
How do we live until Christ returns?

- The practice of abiding/remaining in Christ, in close relationship with him.
- The practice of living righteously/rightly (according to God's ways) is evidence of a relationship with the Righteous One.
- Not the practice or habit of sinning. (Do not “keep on sinning...” (5 times in verses 6-9)
- The practice of loving other believers – major theme of this letter.
- The practice of becoming like him. (“family likeness” is proof of relationship.

Justification, Sanctification, Glorification

Chapter 3 v 1

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!
And that is what we are!



**Psalty
the kids'song book**

Do you believe, have you experienced, the lavish love of God?

“The furious longing of God” by Brennan Manning

**'Come then, my love, my lovely one, come.
For see, winter is past, the rains are over and gone.
'Flowers are appearing on the earth. The season of
glad songs has come, the cooing of the turtledove is
heard in our land.**

**Come then, my love, my lovely one, come.
'...let me hear your voice;
for your voice is sweet and your face is lovely.'**

Come then, my love, my lovely one, come.

(Song of Songs 2 v10-14, JB)