

Wednesday 1st July 2020

1 John chapter 2 verses 28 & 29 Chapter 3 Verses 3 to 6

²⁸ And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming. ²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him. **3** See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,^[1] we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. ³ All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴ Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. ⁵ But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. ⁶ No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

As Believers our self-worth is grounded on what we know. We are the children of God and he loves us. Not later on in the future but he loves us now and because of this we should become stronger in our faith and be reflections of Christ. Going back to verses 28,29 they confirm what it means for us, that as Christians we have to really show correct behaviour. Many people do good works but they don't have faith in Jesus Christ. Some people claim to have faith but seldom live the way they should if they truly believed. But then if there are faults then God knows and he has to be faced at some point in their lives. True faith brings about good acts and behaviour and seek to do what is right. Good deeds do not bring redemption but they are an essential confirmation that there is faith within them. As we go through life we learn to grow in our faith and it is a journey towards growing to be more like God. And as such we win over sin, and we grow even more to love others as God first loved us. Then we will have the confidence and assurance to meet with God face to face.

Sue Monk Kidd, wrote in her book *God's Joyful Surprise* (1987)

"It is God who loved us first. His unceasing love sends him after us. He is the seeking Lover, the one who made us for himself. From the very beginning we were created to be found and loved by Him. He has woven this secret into the very fibres of our soul and when we seek Him with all the longing He has planted in our hearts, in the end, we simply discover Him seeking us, loving us—in all times and all places"

Thank you God for loving us all.