

**Agape House of Worship**  
**Weekly Bible Study**

**Title: The hope for our tomorrow**  
**Scripture: 1 John 2:28-3:3**

**Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Facilitator: Minister Joshua Dada**

**Text:**

<sup>28</sup> And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming. <sup>29</sup> If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him.

**3** Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

**Introduction:**

When was the last time you considered the imminence of the return of Jesus? SELAH! Compare that to how eager you might have been as you waited for your favorite show to drop a new episode or for tickets to a conference or concert to go on sale. With the latter, it seems easier to wait with eagerness with the end in view, but with the former, it feels distant. Most of the time in conversation, one can easily hear how distant we believe the return of Jesus is. Some may not think it may happen in their lifetime. Why is that? Waiting is an activity that should be coupled with movement and purpose. For example, when you are waiting for an episode to drop, you schedule your day to make room for its release, and likewise with a concert. Or let's look at a biblical example: the believers in Acts 2 who waited for the Holy Spirit as Jesus commanded. It's essential to note that they didn't sit on their hands while waiting; instead, they prayed, which was evidence of their waiting. Are you more eager for the answer to your prayers and the fulfillment of prophecies over your life than the return of Jesus? If He were to return today, would He find you waiting?

**I. Abide in Him**

*Question: What does it mean to abide in Jesus? And why should this be the starting point of our relationship with Him?*

- To best understand what it means to abide, we must understand its implications. There are two implications that we must explore. To know Him and be found in Him.
- To Know Him:
  - Knowing God is not an abstract theory we grasp with our minds. It is not head knowledge that is absorbed in a single moment. To know God is coming into all the fullness of who He is, what He has done, what He will do, and how He wills for His people to live. (Ephesians 3:14-19)

- o To know Him is to keep His Word (1 John 2:5), do His will (1 John 2:17), recognize His righteousness (1 John 2:29), and to love (1 John 4:8). This all flows out of abiding with God, for to abide with God is to remain, to stay, and to tarry.
- To be found in Him:
  - o John tells his audience and us to abide. Why? So that *“when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.”*

*Question: What is this confidence rooted in? And how?*

- In 1 John 2:18-19, the premise is that people have departed from the faith and that the end time is at hand.
- To emphasize his point of abiding in Jesus, John reminds them that they are in the last hour. No doubt they were already aware, but he felt he needed to remind them not to depart from The Way and indulge in any sinful living because we are in the last hour.
- o To be found in Him, or to have confidence in Him, is to have a righteousness that comes from Him. (v29)

## II. Behold Him

*Question: Why is this love a thing to behold?*

- John tells us to behold *“what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God.”*
- Two reasons for us beholding in this text are:
  - o His Righteousness:
    - 1 John 2:1-2, *“My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.”*
    - We have a righteous savior who has appeased God's wrath on our behalf, and He advocates for us, giving us the ability to live freely and confidently for Him.
  - o We are born of Him:
    - To be called a child of God is a unique identifier. Within this context, to be called a child of God would be an association with the God of Israel. The God who led the captivity captives. The God who redeems, who restores, and who is coming back.

## III. Hope in Him

*Question: Is your hope in Jesus?*

- To hope is to have expectation. In the Christian sense, it is a joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation.
- Hope and action go hand in hand. John says, *“And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. In other words, if you are hopeful for His return, expecting to be with Him in glory, you would live now in view of then! You will purify yourself that you may be found abiding in Him confidently on that great day*