

1 John 2:28-3:10

John is continuing to expose the false teachers – those who have departed from John and the church, 2:19 – and to encourage the believers left behind.

Look at 2:28. What does John want for his readers and why?

Look now at 3:1-2a. Why might this be difficult for them? (Think particularly about the reaction of the world to them and how they might be feeling about themselves.)

How does John assure his readers that they are children of God despite the way they might be feeling? Think especially about what God has said and what Jesus has done and will do. (Look at verses 1, 2, 5, 8b, 9)

How does John contrast his readers with the false teachers as he describes the children of God and the children of the devil? (You might want to think especially about how they relate to Jesus and how they relate to sin.) Why do you think John highlights the specific sin of not loving their brother and sister in 10b?

Thinking it through

What confidence do you think what John wrote here would have given his readers:

- a) In the present?
- b) For the future?

What confidence does this give us for the present and the future?

How will this help us to continue in Jesus and to purify ourselves as He is pure?