

SERMON-BASED STUDY: WALKING RIGHT

1 John 2:28-3:3, ESV – ²⁸ And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming. ²⁹ If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him.

¹ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

³ And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Notes:

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QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 This week we were reminded to walk with Jesus since He is coming soon. How can we have confidence and be unashamed before Jesus at His coming?

2 How is knowing that Jesus is righteous related to practicing righteousness?

3 Why is it vital to know what God has done for us? What hope do we have as children of God?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Colossians 2:6-15, ESV** – ⁶ Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

4 What are some examples of “philosophy and empty deceit” that typically lead people away from Christ today? How do we “see to it that no one takes you captive”?

5 Looking at the passage above, how do we walk with Jesus?

6 In verse 10, what does Paul mean by “you have been filled in him”? Why is this important for walking with Jesus?

B **Romans 8:12-17, ESV** – ¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

7 In the passage above, why does Paul refer to Christians as debtors? How should this affect the way we relate to the Holy Spirit?

8 How has the Holy Spirit given you assurance of God's salvation work in your life?

9 What hope do we have from the Holy Spirit? How does this help us walk rightfully with Jesus?

TAKING IT HOME

Walking right involves staying connected with the Holy Spirit, living in awe of God, and resting in our hope in Jesus. How are you doing in these areas? What is one thing you could do this week to improve walking rightfully? Share with your group or accountability partner what God is showing you. Pray for one another as you strive to walk right.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 5:8

John 1:12

Philippians 3:20-21

1 Peter 2:24-25

1 John 2:5-6, 9; 3:4-10