

Series: Back to Basics

Title: Living For The Return of Christ

1 John 2:28-3:3

Introduction

John insists that Jesus is the Christ! He is God's chosen Savior and King for all of humanity. Jesus came in the flesh, and his body in death paid for humanity's sins. Jesus also conquered death when His body was resurrected. John also says that he was an eye-witness to all of these things and that Jesus will return in His glorified body at the end of the age.

1. The phrase "when he appears" occurs twice and is which means "to make _____."
2. The resurrected Jesus is _____, present, and accessible through his Spirit.
3. Only his _____ presence is not now visible to us— but the day is coming when he will return _____ to establish God's kingdom over the earth.
4. Christians call this event the " _____ Coming of Christ".
5. Jesus himself said we cannot _____ the time.
6. John _____ instead on what will happen when Jesus returns and how we should live in light of his return.
7. John says that when Jesus returns, we will be _____ him.

I. We Will Be Like Him

8. John says that when Jesus returns, we will be _____ him.
9. The question is, "In what _____ will we become like Jesus when he returns?"
10. The body of Jesus is now a _____ body.

11. While we become God's sons and daughters the moment we receive Jesus, our bodies won't _____ this new identity until Jesus returns.
12. The natural _____ is that our bodies progressively lose whatever vitality they've had as they age!
13. When He appears, He will change our bodies so that they manifest our true _____ as God's children.
14. Make sure that you are indeed God's _____.
15. John is writing to people who have chosen to become followers of Jesus and God's children by responding to the _____ God makes.
16. Because Jesus has died for our sins, we all can become God's _____.
17. You must choose Jesus to be your Savior and _____ Jesus into your heart.
18. The _____ you make that decision, you become God's child.
19. Jesus comes to live in your heart through the _____ of the Holy Spirit as you experience God's love.
20. God promises you will receive a _____ body when Jesus returns if you have become His child by receiving Christ.

II. We Can Be Pure In Heart

21. Since our ultimate destiny is to become utterly and gloriously _____, we should make as much progress in that direction as possible in the meantime.
22. Even though our bodies can't presently manifest our new identity as God's children, our _____ can—and they should.

23. John is not saying that we can become perfectly _____ in this life.
24. John is not saying that we can become pure by our own _____.
25. We can _____ with God as he works to purify us.
26. Since we will soon inhabit God's kingdom, we should represent His character _____.
27. The more we cooperate with Him, the closer we come to a life of moral and ethical _____.

III. We Can Be Bold and Unashamed

28. John does not say "so that He will not shrink back from _____ in shame."
29. He says, "so that you will not shrink back from _____ in shame."
30. Our actions can grieve the Holy Spirit, but that doesn't mean God _____ us.
31. The people that Jesus will be ashamed of when he returns are those who have turned away from Him and _____ him as their Lord and Master.
32. John is concerned about those who, when Jesus returns, might _____ back from him in shame.
33. Sadly, some may shrink back in shame because they regret _____ their Christian life!

Conclusion

34. We need to live in such a way that when we see that God's kingdom is all that really matters, we will not regret wasting our Christian life on things that don't _____.
35. The return of Christ should _____ us to be better followers of Jesus.
36. It is a _____ part of our motivation.
37. He says we can be confident when Jesus returns by simply "continuing to live in _____ with Christ."

We cannot bear fruit or advance Christ's kingdom by our own strength or ingenuity. The Kingdom of Christ will bear much fruit as we abide in him. If we make it a habit to stay close to Jesus, we will be changed to be more like Him. We will learn to depend upon our fellowship with him. We will develop a pure heart and be confident and unashamed when he returns.

Answers

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| 1. visible | 13. child | 25. now |
| 2. alive | 14. invitation | 26. integrity |
| 3. bodily | 15. children | 27. us |
| 4. Second | 16. receive | 28. Him |
| 5. know | 17. moment | 29. rejects |
| 6. focuses | 18. presence | 30. denied |
| 7. like | 19. glorified | 31. shrink |
| 8. sense | 20. righteous | 32. wasting |
| 9. glorified | 21. characters | 33. matter |
| 10. manifest | 22. pure | 34. motivate |
| 11. truth | 23. power | 35. healthy |
| 12. identity | 24. cooperate | 36. fellowship |

QUESTIONS FOR MEDITATION

1. What aspect of having a future glorified body is most exciting to you?
2. What is God directing you to turn away from? What character changes is he leading you into? How are you responding?