

- I. Children of God should be ready for the Lord’s return (v. 28-29)
 - A. We are ready by living in a relationship with Jesus
 - B. We are ready by living righteous lives
- II. Children of God are loved by God (v. 1-3)
 - A. God’s love makes it possible for us to be his children

“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1:12)

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

- B. The fact that we are children of God is our identity
- C. As children of God we are separated from the world

“As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.” (John 15:19)

- D. As children of God we will be made like him

“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

- E. As children of God we are called to live pure lives

“Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates the body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.” (2 Corinthians 7:1)

- III. Children of God seek to live the holy life (v. 4-10)

“Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.” (Hebrews 12:14)

- A. Sin is breaking the law of God
- B. Sin is opposition to the nature of God

“But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’ “ (1 Peter 1:16)

- C. Children of God are called to abandon the life of sin

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.” (Hebrews 12:1)

- D. Children of God are called to avoid deception

E. Children of God follow the righteous example of Jesus

“Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.” (1 John 2:8)

F. Children of God reject the sinning example of the devil

“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.” (James 4:7)

G. Children of God can enjoy victory over sin and the devil

“There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.” (Romans 8:1-2)

H. Children of God reveal their true identity by their behavior