

HE STANDS UP FOR US PART V

Beloved, we are [even here and] now God's children; it is not yet disclosed (made clear) what we shall be [hereafter], but we know that when He comes *and* is manifested, we shall [as God's children] resemble *and* be like Him, for we shall see Him just as He [really] is. **I John 3:2 AMPC**

- Now we are His children, but we are going to be 'other than we are' now, when we see Him.
- We are His children, part of His family.
- This is the foundation of our identity and our security.
- Heaven is our destination.\
- Being more like Jesus is our destiny.
- Developing our true unique potential in the Lord is the discipling process that brings about our destiny.
- This is so helpful to us when things don't 'add up', and there are things we just don't know or understand.

The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law.

Deuteronomy 29:29 NASB

³And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. ⁴Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin. **I John 3:3-5 NASB**

- Get Your Hope 'fixed'! Focus is a great 'fixer'!

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷so that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; **I Peter 1:3-7**

NASB.

- Jesus demonstrated His purity in the midst of this fallen, broken world. Now, we get to discover and develop our practiced purity in the same environment.
- Only the holy spirit can make us holy, but our cooperation (partnership) is essential.

Everyone who commits (practices) sin is guilty of lawlessness; for [that is what] sin is, lawlessness (the breaking, violating of God's law by transgression or neglect—being unrestrained and unregulated by His commands and His will). **I John 3:4 AMPC**

- Doing 85-mph in a 70-mph zone is purposely breaking the law.
- Turning onto a one-way street the wrong way because you are confused is breaking the law, too.

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¹See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and *such* we are. For this reason, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. ²Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. ³And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. ⁴Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin. **I John 3:1-5 NASB**

- Behold! Look at this! Look at the kind of love that God has given us!
 - This is wonderfully great! Like no other level or category of love we have ever seen...
 - What an amazing sort of love is this? What 'country' does this love come from?

SEE WHAT [an incredible] quality of love the Father has given (shown, bestowed on) us, that we should [be permitted to] be named *and* called *and* counted the children of God! And so, we are! The reason that the world does not know (recognize, acknowledge) us is that it does not know (recognize, acknowledge) Him. **I John 3:1 AMPC**

- We are named, called and counted as the children of God...by God Himself!
- Now we are the children of God, not just Warren Buffett or George Clooney, or Patrick Mahomes but Children of God!
- Why? Because He loves us!

⁴But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, ⁵so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. **Galatians 4:4-5 NASB**

⁷"The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but because the LORD loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers, the LORD brought you out by a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. **Deuteronomy 7:7-8 NASB**

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For [the Spirit which] you have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry, Abba (Father)! Father! **Romans 8:14-15 AMPC**

- You can still be friends...what?
- The Bible says that the world does not know us (**I John 3:1**) ...and it knows us, but it doesn't know who He really is and what it really means to be His Children.

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- Lawlessness is not just an action, it is an attitude towards God...or even against God.

You know that He appeared in visible form *and* became Man to take away [upon Himself] sins, and in Him there is no sin [essentially and forever]. **I John 3:5 AMPC**

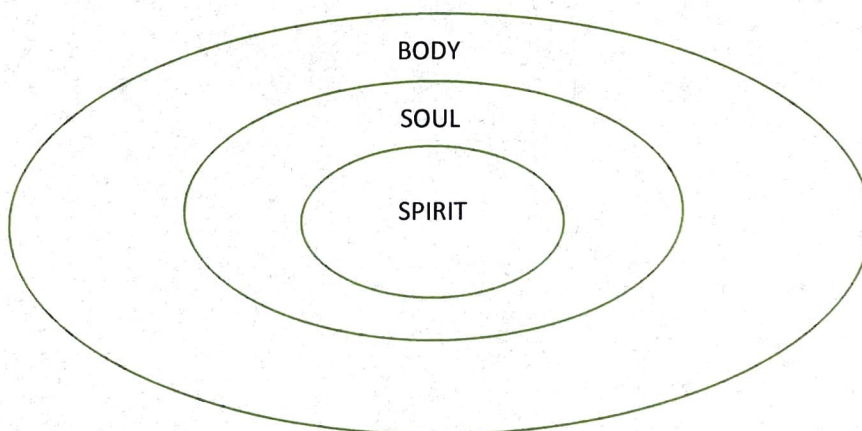
- Remember **I John 1:9**...We are called to live blameless not sinless, and to love righteousness.

⁷Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. ⁸The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. ⁹No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God. ¹⁰This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister. **I John 3:7-10 NASB**

⁸If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. **I John 1:8-10 NASB**

⁸The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. ⁹No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God. **I John 3:8-9 NASB**

²³May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **I Thessalonians 5:23 NASB**



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In **I John**, John is opposing the teaching of the Gnostics who were causing trouble in his day. Gnostics were dualists...worshipping more than one god...they were out to eradicate ignorance via special revelations and learning. They didn't care about the eradication of sin. The teaching of the Gnostics did not lead to righteousness or goodness but to intellectual pride and social elitism. Jesus came to destroy such teaching and the attitudes it produced. (See **I John 3:8**)

The devil is the 'original' sinner...he is a created being of incredible capacity who rebelled against God, and he attempts to usurp God's authority by setting himself up as a rival ruler of the universe...this is where evil originates, and sin finds its source.

- We are born again to do what Jesus came to do...that is to destroy, overcome and undo the works of the enemy.

¹⁴Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. **Hebrews 2:14-15 NASB**

- We should not expect perfection in our own lives or the lives of those around us (we are to live blameless not sinless). But we should not accept mediocre levels of living either. Living water should never be served 'lukewarm'. We don't want to only live a 'room temperature' life. We sin when we fall to separated thinking and act as who we aren't. when we live in our identity, we are much less prone to sin. Walking in love, walking in the spirit is living righteously...faith working through love leaves little time, energy, or desire for sins.