

Title: The Have's and Have Not's

Text: 1 John 2:28-3:10

Target: What you have IN CHRIST will always be worth more than what you have WITHOUT CHRIST.

- I. **Have Confidence in His Coming:** *"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."* (Vs. 28)
 - A. **Abiding Assurance:** *"abide in Him"*
 - B. **Accepting Assurance:** *"not shrink from him"*
 - C. **Affirming Assurance:** *"If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who practices righteousness has been born of him."* (Vs. 29)
- II. **Have Confirmation as His Children:** *"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are."* (Vs.1a)
 - A. **Admonishing Assurance:** *"called children of God; and so we are."*
 - B. **Appealing Assurance:** *"The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him."* (Vs. 1b)
 - C. **Accomplishing Assurance:** *"we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is"* (Vs.2)
 - D. **Acknowledging Assurance:** *"And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure."* (Vs. 3)
- III. **Have Conviction towards His Commandments:** *"Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness."* (Vs. 4)
 - A. **Atoning Assurance:** *"You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin."* (Vs. 5)
 - B. **Abstaining Assurance:** *"No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him."* (Vs. 6)
 - C. **Annihilating Assurance:** *"Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil."* (Vs. 8)
- IV. **Have Comfort in His Comfort:** *"No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God."* (Vs. 9)
 - A. **Abounding Assurance:** *"because he has been born of God"* -2X (Vs. 9)
 - B. **Advocating Assurance:** *"God's seed abides in him"* (Vs. 9)
 - C. **Astonishing Assurance:** *"whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother."* (Vs. 10)

Take Away: What matters most in this life, and the one to come, is whether you HAVE JESUS, and JESUS HAS you.

Discussion Questions: The main idea from this text is assurance. Assurance of our standing with Jesus. This assurance gives us confidence, conviction, and comfort. When we have assurance, we tend not to worry about things in life. For example, when we have assurance

that our children are safe, we tend not to worry about them. John says that the same can be said for our relationship with God by stating, "what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called the children of God!"

Have you ever stopped to consider that if you have placed your faith in Christ as your savior, that you are a child of God? Read Romans 8:16-18. Think about that for a moment. What does it mean to be a child of God? Does this knowledge compel you to represent Him well to a lost world that is watching your every move? Finally, are there some things that you need to be reassured of today as a child of the King?