

(1 John 2:28 – 3:3)
“Unshakeable Confidence”

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled today's message: “Unshakable Confidence.”
 - (1 John 2:28 – 3:3) NKJV.

~ INTRO ~

NOW... WE'VE SEEN JOHN...

- Speak to the different RANKS of people in the church.
 - i. The NEW BELIEVER (*little children*)...
 - Who are trying to figure out what's *right & wrong*.
 - ii. The GROWING BELIEVER (*young men*)...
 - Who have experienced freedom & victory over sin.
 - iii. The MATURE BELIEVER (*fathers*)...
 - Who desire the will of God for life.

THEN LAST WEEK... WE LEARNED...

- Lessons about the urgency of time we're living thru: (1 John 2:18)
 - 1) *“It is the last hour”*
 - Which described NOT a *duration of time*...
 - But a *kind of time* ¹
 - 2) The signs of *“the last hour”*
 - a) The COMING of the Antichrist = the man from (Rev. 13:1)...
 - Who is possessed by Satan.
 - b) Then the ones here now antichrists = (plural) people who are...
 - Defiant toward authority & breach the Christian faith.

READ (1 John 2:28 – 3:3) NKJV

~ STUDY ~

¹ Charles Swindoll, New Testament Commentary of (1 John 2:18) (p.62). Copyright 2018.

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HERE’S A FEW THINGS WE CAN LEARN TODAY:

IDEA #1 – AVOID EMBARRASSMENT: (v.28)

“*Little children*” = An affectionate term for the whole family of faith.

“*Abide*” NKJV / “*Remain in fellowship with Christ*” NLT

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

- By believing truth & living truth.

LET’S TAKE A DETOUR...

- To help us get a clearer perspective.
 - FLIP to (Col. 3:5-16).

OK... ANSWER ME ON THIS...

- How do you feel when you get...
 - A fresh haircut & a new set of clothes???

YOU FEEL PRETTY GOOD – RIGHT!?!

REMEMBER... JOHN... IS TELLING THE CHURCH...

- To “*Remain in fellowship with Christ*” NLT

AND... PAUL TAUGHT THE CHURCH WHAT THAT LOOKED LIKE.

- It starts by getting rid of the old way of life...
 - AND putting in place spiritual values.

“*Since we were raised with Christ*” (Col. 3:1)...

- We’re to SEEK & SET our minds on things above!
 - This is what John calls “*abiding in Christ.*”

HERE’S A COUPLE THINGS WE MUST DEAL WITH AS WE GROW:

FIRST... (Col. 3:5)...

- “Sensual appetites” of sexuality!

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- Which makes a Christian distinctively different from culture.

SKINNY FILE DEFINITIONS: (v.5)

- a) *Fornication* = Sexual acts of all kinds (outside of marriage).
- b) *Uncleanness* = Mind pollution of provocative images (Swindoll).
- c) *Passion* = Depraved sexual desires that go against God’s will.
- d) *Evil Desires* = Craving what is forbidden.

GENERAL UNDERSTANDING...

- Our humanity likes pleasure AND sex is high on that list.

SO...

- When God-given-desires are left unchecked
 - We feed something that takes us away...
 - From fellowship with Him.

JESUS ADDRESSED IT THIS WAY...

- (Matt. 5:28-30) NKJV
 - *Pluck it out & cut it off.*

NEXT... (v.5-b)

- e) *Covetousness* = A greedy desire for more pleasures.
- f) *Idolatry* = Sins of the mind against God...
& sins of the body against God.

POINT BEING... (Col. 3:6) NKJV.

SO PAUL SAYS... THE ONLY REMEDY IS TO...

“Put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you” (Col. 3:5) NLT

CHURCH...

- When you dabble with sin...
 - You should know that Satan is trying to enslave you.
 - He tries to hinder all that God has given you!

BUT THRU JESUS’ DEATH...

- You can be set free!
 - Addictions (drugs, alcohol, sex, pornography – can be broken)!
 - Habits that cause emotional eating – gone!

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- Sucked into gambling & can't stop – with Jesus you can!
- Are you in a destructive abusive relationship – Jesus can help!

THERE'S NOTHING HE CAN'T OVERCOME FOR YOU!

NOW THE FOCUS SHIFTS...

- To a wardrobe change.

IDEA #2 – PUT ON YOUR NEW CLOTHES: (v.29)

(Col. 3:8) “*put off*”

- Remove the grave clothes you're wearing.

These are more ways that break fellowship...

- (Anger, wrath, filthy language, lying, etc.)

OFTEN...

- These can be wreckless behaviors that stick to us like a bad habit!

BUT THE TRUTH IS...

- We've been given the Holy Spirit...
 - And God wants us to yield to Him when they pop up...
 - So we can produce spiritual fruit (Gal. 5:22-25) NLT

(Col. 3:10) NLT

*“Put on your new nature, and be renewed
as you learn to know your Creator AND become like Him.”*

HE GOES ON...

(Col. 3:12-14)

- *Since...* GOD CHOSE US TO BE HIS PEOPLE...
 - We need to put on new clothes!

As Christian's this is who we are NOW!

- These *New Clothes* (attitudes & actions) are the new me.

(v.12) NLT

Tender mercies / kindness / humility / meekness / longsuffering.

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(v.13) NLT

Make allowances for each other's faults, forgive anyone who offends you...

IDEA #3 – BECAUSE I'M FAMILY: (1 John 3:1-3)

(Col. 3:15) NKJV

1) *Let the peace of God rule in your heart...*

a. Rule =

- i. Direct
- ii. Control
- iii. Decide

The **presence of God's Spirit** navigates our actions & attitudes with peace.

WHEN I'M MISSING PEACE...

- Something in my life conflicting with...
 - God's Word OR God's Spirit?

(v.16-a) NKJV

2) *Let the word of Christ dwell in you*

a. Dwell =

- i. Influence for good

IN OTHER WORDS...

- We're to be active in each other's lives
 - By helping each other grow.

~ IN CLOSING ~

JOHN TEACHES THE CHURCH...

- How-to live-in confidence as we eagerly wait for the return of Christ.
- And he says that anyone who has the hope of heaven...
 - Willingly turn away from anything that spoils...
 - Your relationship with God – READ (1 John 3:3).