

The Gift of Being God's Child

Mark Beard / 2018

Text: 1 John 3:1-7 (NIV)

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. 5 But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. 6 No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

7 Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Introduction

We have heard much about the love of God and heard it described in many ways, but have you ever thought about His love being “lavish?” Note the *traits* of God's love that give it its lavish nature.

- I. Becoming A Child of God Is A Priceless Gift (V.1).**
- II. Becoming A Child of God Is Just the Beginning (V.2).**
- III. Becoming A Child of God Should Motivate Us to Live Holy (V.3-6).**
- IV. Becoming A Child of God Comes with Responsibilities (V.7).**

Conclusion

The *traits* of God's love that give it its lavish nature should inspire use to living a life that is pleasing to God, the giver of the greatest love.