

1 John 3:1-3^{iv}

See what love the Father has given 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. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

^{iv} **About the Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3**

These three short verses are packed with assurance of the Christian's relationship to God. We are already God's sons and daughters. This text does not use the language of adoption for this relationship, but affirms that we are God's children—a statement of unqualified belonging.

We are God's children now. Now God's reign is known by those who are God's children. Someday, God's reign will be known by all people. What will that be like? We do not know. We do know that God will be at the center of that experience and all things will be new. We hope for something beyond our imaginations.