

## CHRISTIANS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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**I John 2:18-I John 3:3**

Remember back in the church of your childhood when the sermons were so powerful and meaningful that you didn't realize how long you were actually in church? Even the music was different. The senior choir used to sing songs where you imagined yourself as a work in progress. You are a Christian under construction. You are building a house that models what God is and what He has already done for you. There are those trying to be disciples of Christ who are building a spiritual house brick by brick and room by room. As Christians, we are supposed to develop the character of God, mind of Christ, and the zeal of the Holy Spirit even in this hard world. You are going through a renovation process that will make you more effective in this world.

In the text, John reminds them that they already have an anointing on their lives. We live in a world that is much different than the world in the bible. We take for granted that we are children of God. Imagine what it was like for those in the text to be called children of God. After the appearance of Jesus Christ, it took on a deeper meaning. God adopted them into His family by calling them sons and daughters. God could have saved us without adopting us but His love always goes deeper. The Father saved us and then adopted us. He sent Jesus Christ to die for our sins. He gives us a new mark, a new DNA. Today we live in the age of the paternity test. A paternity test describes a relationship where a man is determined physically responsible for the creation of a child. Yes, God created us but we only become children of God by an act of love. To be a child of God, we treat others like God treats others. We have to have the character of God. If you are a member of God's family you can't go around with a bad attitude. You can't be indifferent to the problems and pain of others. You can't be insensitive to the injustices of the world.

In this present moment, we are God's children. We have privilege with God right now. It is not just a phrase, label, or stamp. It is who we are. Whatever status we enjoy it is because of God's great love for us. How do Christians go around discombobulated? It is because you don't understand God's love for you. If you understand that you have been adopted by God, you will understand who you are in this world. Whatever somebody is plotting against you, don't worry because God has your back. If you understand that you are a child of God, you will understand that everything will be alright.

There should be a difference between those who are on the Lord's side and those who are on the devil's side. Someone ought to be able to tell that we are children of God. We ought to look, sound, and act like God. Being in the family of God puts you in the position of your future destination. When you see Jesus, you shall be like him. When we get a glimpse of Jesus, it changes us. You are a work in progress. You are still under construction. None of us can be all we are supposed to be until we see Jesus. We weren't there when he went around healing the sick, clothing the naked, or raising the dead. We didn't see him hang on the cross and rise from the grave. That is not the Jesus we are going to see. We shall see him in his glory. We will see him without the cross, thorns, nails, and blood. When we see him, we shall be like him.

As Christians we live in the already and the not yet. You ought to be in the position to look like Jesus. Today's preachers don't preach about being like Jesus anymore. The popular preaching of today doesn't go deep enough. We need a preaching that will transform us and prepare us for eternal life. We need a word that will put an end to war in this world.

When we see Jesus, we won't need to say anything because we will see him as he is and he will see us as we are. With a work in progress, some days are better than others. It is a process. You are work in progress. You are under construction. There is a better person in the making. In the construction process, there are some dangerous things that have to happen. There is some cutting, hammering, and nailing. There is a great building inside of you. There is a great person inside of you. When you see yourself in the future, you are going look so much better than you do right now. However, right now God is cutting, hammering, and nailing some stuff on you. He is working on you. When you see Jesus, you will look like him. When you see him, all your troubles will be all over. When the battle is over, you shall wear a crown.

Peace.

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