

Morning Lesson

LIKE HIM IN THIS WORLD

1 John 4:17

INTRO:

1. Of all the New Testament writers, John states the greatest truths in the simplest terms.
 - a. Can you say it in shorter words?
 - b. Can you say a greater truth in any words?
2. Though we could make application in many directions, I want us to notice this verse in its simplest form.

I. "AS HE IS..."

A. Not "as he was."

1. Jesus Christ never changes. **Heb. 13:8**

2. There is only one thing Jesus ever "was" -- he was dead, but he is not now. **Rev. 1:18**

B. When John saw Jesus in his resurrected body, it knocked him out! **Rev. 1:17**

C. Jesus Christ is the eternal contemporary.

II. "As He Is, SO ARE WE..."

A. Christians are like him in kind, but not in degree.

1. We are partakers of his nature.

2. What is his is ours.

B. In the Christian, Christ lives again.

1. He does not say, "As he is, we should be." or "As he is, we will be."

2. We should be what we are.

III. "As He Is, So Are We, IN THIS WORLD."

A. He had a hard time here and left us a legacy of tribulation and suffering. **Phil. 3:10; John 15:18**

B. He said in **John 17:18; 2 Cor. 5:17**

C. Christians are married to Christ. **Rom. 7:1-4**

D. All things are his and ours, except ourselves. **1 Cor. 6:19**

E. His friends are our friends, and his enemies are our enemies. **Phil. 3:18; James 4:4; Luke 2:34; Acts 28:22; 1 Cor. 4:13**

F. His future is our future. **2 Timothy 2:12; 1 Cor. 6:2**

CONC:

1. Are you married to the heavenly bridegroom?
2. "As he is, so are we in this world!"