

Privilege and Responsibility

Description

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1 John 2:28—3:10

To be children of the Most High God—what an honor! John’s amazement at God’s love for us is almost audible in 1 John, chapter 2; his word choice and punctuation emphasize the truth that our identity as children of God is an amazing gift, not to be taken for granted.

We are indeed privileged to be called children of God, but with any privilege comes responsibility. John makes it clear that the responsibility of a child of God is to live in a way that honors the Father. In fact, he goes so far as to say that anyone who does not love his brother and sister is not God’s child. These are strong words that we must take seriously.

All parents can relate to the desire for their children to love each other. Few things are more stressful to parents than to hear their children arguing. If such conflict bothers earthly parents, imagine how God must grieve when we criticize or argue with our Christian brothers and sisters. Let us act as privileged children of God, honoring one another as a way of honoring our Father.

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