FEATURES OF OUR HOPE — 1 JOHN 2:28—3:3

Our Hope is Secured by Abiding (1Jn.2:28)

- And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming (1Jn.2:28)
 - When Jesus appears, we want to face Him with confidence.
 - The way to make sure that we are not ashamed is to abide in Him

2 Our Hope is Manifest by Righteousness (1Jn.2:29)

- If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him. (1Jn.2:29)
 - Righteousness is the result of the life of the righteous One in us.
 - Salvation is seen as new birth, regeneration, the old life is gone and new life comes.

Our Hope is Established in Love (1Jn.3:1)

- Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. (1Jn.3:1)
 - John is astonished that God's amazing grace makes sinners into children.
 - It gives itself away for the benefit of someone else, without that person necessarily being worthy of such an expression.

Our Hope is Fulfilled in Christ's Likeness (1Jn.3:2)

- Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. (1Jn.3:2)
 - What makes heaven attractive is when I get to heaven I'm going to be like Jesus Christ.
 - Being conformed to the image of Christ (Ro.8:29) means holiness and righteousness.
 - If nothing else awaits me in heaven, I will have full, pure capacity to worship and glorify God forever.

Our Hope is Characterized by Purity (1Jn.3:3)

- And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. (1Jn.3:3)
 - When you think about heaven don't think about clouds and gold streets and limit your thoughts to that.
 - Think of this. When I get to heaven I am going to be like Jesus Christ.
 - If you fix this hope on Him, not on a place, not on activity, but on a person, that in itself becomes purifying.