"Seeing God"

Pastor Jeff Alexander + All Saints Sunday + November 6, 2016

1 John 3:1 See what great love the Father has lavished on 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. **2** Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **3** All who have this hope in Him purify themselves, just as He is pure.

From the very beginning, God created His people to be His saints, His "holy ones."

Genesis 1:27

So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them.

In prideful disobedience, the children of Adam all <u>fall short</u> of God's glory.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

In the obedience of Christ, the children of Adam become the children of God, "made right" by grace through faith!

Romans 3:24

...and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Being the children of God is a present <u>reality</u> with a future <u>fulfillment</u>.

Colossians 3:4

When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Christ's return on the Last Day will mean that sin and death will be destroyed forever!

When we are children of God, our lives are already shaped by our <u>heavenly hope</u>.

1 John 3:3

All who have this hope in Him purify themselves, just as He is pure.

In the forgiveness of sins, we are made "pure in heart."

What will happen in full when we are in the <u>Kingdom of Heaven</u> breaks into our lives right here, right now!

Matthew 5:8

Jesus said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God!"