



How Christ's First Coming Changes Us

Pastor Kevin Hurt

1 John 3:4-10

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REVIEW — Understanding the setting of 3:1-10

The Contrast — 2 Kinds of People

The Point — Sin is **INCOMPATIBLE** in the life of a true believer — **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, not sin, is what defines their lives.

The Point — This does not imply that sin is **IMPOSSIBLE** for a true believer, but that it is **INCONSISTENT** with a true believer.

The Connection — The Coming of Christ

vs. 1-3 — The **FUTURE** coming of Christ. (Cf. 2:28-29)

vs. 4-10 — The **FIRST** coming of Christ.

The Point — Both His first (past) coming and future (2nd coming) — are two reasons why a true Christian does not **PRACTICE** sin.

“Unrighteous conduct is unthinkable in the Christian who has grasped the purpose of the two appearing’s of Christ. The fact of His first appearing and the hope of His second are both strong incentives to holiness” — **John Stott**

LESSON — How Christ's First Coming Changes Us 3:4-10

I. THE DEFINITION OF SIN — Understanding the Nature of Sin vs. 4-7

The Introductory Phrase (v. 4) — This tells us **WHAT** sin is.

*“Everyone who **practices sin** also **practices lawlessness**; and **sin is lawlessness.**”*

The Intentional Purpose (v. 5) — This tells us what Jesus came to **DO** in his first coming.

*“you know that **He appeared in order to take away sins;**
and in Him there is no sin.”*

The Insightful Point (vs. 6-7) — This tells us **WHO** is a Christian.

*“No one who abides in Him **sins; no one who sins** has seen Him or knows Him.... the one who **practices righteousness** is righteous,
just as He is righteous;”*

II. THE DIABOLICALNESS OF SIN — Understanding the Origin of Sin vs. 8-10

The Introductory Phrase (v. 8a) — This tells us the **SOURCE** of sin.

*“The one who practices sin is **of the devil,** for **the devil** has sinned from the beginning.”*

The Intentional Purpose (v. 8b) — This tells us what Jesus came to **DO** in his first coming.

*“The Son of God **appeared for this purpose,** to **destroy** the works of the devil.”*

The Insightful Point (vs. 9-10) — This tell us how to **DISTINGUISH** between God’s children and the devils.

*“No one who is **born of God practices sin,** ... **by this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious...**”*

Applying this to our lives ...

1) This teaches us that a true Christian does not and cannot practice a life of **HABITUAL, PERSISTENT, UNREPENTANT** sin.

2) This teaches us that there is no such thing as a **CARNAL** Christian life.

