



Thursday, 12/22/16

SEE WHAT LOVE THE FATHER

READING: 1 John 3:1-3

I once heard part of a radio show about British royal children getting ready to go to a friend's birthday party. Just before leaving, they were admonished by their nanny to remember, "royal children, royal manners." Implications or applications for us...?

1 John 3:1 tells us what kind of love the Father has for us. It's a love He bestows on us, a love that enables us to be called His children. How can it be that we are children of God? The incarnation of Jesus that we celebrate this very time of year is the event that enables this ***change in our status***. It marks the beginning of the "little while" Jesus was made lower than the angels in Hebrews 2. Because we are from one Father, Jesus (the one who sanctifies) calls us (those who are sanctified) His brothers! Jesus partook of the same flesh and blood that we share to be made like us in all things so that He would become our merciful and faithful High priest, making propitiation for our sins.

1 John 3:2 says that the reappearing of Jesus will ***change our sight***. We will see Him as He is and ourselves as we will be, like Him.

And here and now, in the in-between...? According to 1 John 3:3, we fix our hope on Him and purify ourselves. We may not look like royal children in appearance, yet. So how can we know if we are His children? 1 John 3:22-24 – Keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight; believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, love one another, abide in Him.

Royal children, royal manners.

-Kim Stiansen