



LEARN

Behold (See) 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.**

1 John 3:1

Introduction

Remember as we study this month's designated verse we are engaging in a spiritual strategy for growth. As we spend time studying the Holy Bible in a devotional manner, we mature as ambassadors and soldiers in the Kingdom of God.

Goals

Spend the month reading, studying, and meditating on this verse. Ideally you will read the book of 1 John at least once (15 minutes) and chapter 3 (3 minutes) several times. At the end of the month you should be able to quote the verse and its Biblical reference.

Notes

The author is John son of Zebedee (see Mk 1:19-20) the apostle and the author of the Gospel of John and Revelation. He was a fisherman, one of Jesus' inner circle (together with James and Peter), and 'the disciple whom Jesus loved' (Jn 13:23). Unlike most NT letters, 1 John does not tell us who its author is. The earliest identification of him comes from the church fathers: Irenaeus (c. a.d. 140-203), Clement of Alexandria (c. 150-215), Tertullian (c. 155-222) and Origen (c. 185-253) all designated the writer as the apostle John.

As far as we know, no one else was suggested by the early church. 1Jn 2:12-14,19; 3:1; 5:13 make it clear that this letter was addressed to believers. The fact that it mentions no one by name suggests it was a circular letter sent to Christians in a number of places. Clement of Alexandria indicates that John ministered in the various churches scattered throughout that province. It may be assumed, therefore, that 1 John was sent to the churches of the province of Asia.

From the Greek

Know: ginóskó. Original word: γινώσκω Phonetic Spelling: (ghin-ocē'-ko). Definition: to come to know, recognize, perceive. I am taking in knowledge, come to know, learn; I ascertained, realized. Strongs Bible Dictionary 1097 ginóskó – properly, to know, especially through personal experience (first-hand acquaintance).

From this believers can take comfort that the inability of the world to understand us is to be expected. In truth, the lack of understanding has become a defining hallmark for the authentic church.