

John 3. Ch. 1. 2. Beloved now are we the sons
our P. was hated, reviled, & persecuted unto death
by a world lying in wickedness. but notwith-
standing the reproaches and contradictions which
he bore of sinners against himself, we see
how glorious was his Person, & how
exalted his Character. In the same
manner his Followers in every Age
are treated to contempt. if they were of
st. of O. w. love it our but.. x. their
master has chosen y. out of y. O. of O.
but hath y. G. who cannot lie declares
their state to be most honourable upon
Earth. to this Effect St. John represents
y. as slighted by man and honored by G.
Behold what manner of love y. Father hath
bestowed upon us, if we sh. be called y. sons
of G. therefore if O. loveth us not. it
knows him not, beloved now says he.
are we the sons of G. and it doth not yet

In speaking for these words we will
1. point out the present state of believers
2. Their future state
Shall then conclude in an inference
or two for the whole
The Scriptures speak of believers in of
most exalted terms. They are not merely
servants but sons of God. Tho' none
are naturally sons of God according to the
general Tenor of the Bible, yet believers
become sons of God by Adoption and
Regeneration. The Believer was once a
Child of wrath. St. Paul speaking to
the converted Ephesians says among whom
meaning if ungodly, we all had our ^{past} ~~former~~
in Times past, in of lusts of our flesh, fulfilling
the desires of the flesh and of the mind
and were by nature the Children of wrath
even as others. All the saints in glory were
once degenerate creatures fallen from God and
original righteousness into a state of guilt
Death and condemnation. but they were
not left in that state, but God in his own

mercy and way brought us near to himself
thru the blood of the everlasting Covenant
God in his infinite wisdom adopts whom
he will into his family and makes
us his Children. ye are no more says of
Ap. to the believers, Strangers and foreigners
but fellow Citizens to of saints and of of
Household of God. They are by free grace
received into God's family as sons, and made
Heirs of his glory. The Ap. to of Romans
tells us if they had not received of Spirit
of bondage again to fear, but the Spirit
of Adoption, whereby we cry Abba Father.
then he proceeds describing their happy
situation, and of Children, if ye are adopted
into God's family, then Heirs; Heirs of God
and joint heirs, to Christ ye thru your Adoption
become entitled to all the glory w. Christ.
your Saviour and Head enjoys.
They are not only sons of God by Adoption but
Regeneration also. once they possess only
a carnal mind it is Enmity against God while
under the Government of this they,

spirit they can enjoy no happiness of.
they had no desire after any Acquaintance
with him. having only a Relish for
sensual Gratifications. But they have
been born again of the Holy Spirit, and
experienced a Divine Change to have put
upon their souls. They are renewed in
the Spirit and Power of their minds
after the Image of G. their Heavenly
Father. so by they are made new Creatures
in X. They enjoy this State now. they are
now no longer under the Government
of their sinful Lusts and Passions, and
under the Condemnation of their Sin
but have been made free from Sin, and
have become servants unto G. and have
their Fruit unto Holiness now. Rich &
poor learned and unlearned partake
alike of this Blessing and Honor who are
made Sons of G. now does G. withhold
this Honor from any on Account of their
remaining Imperfections. Even now while
the G. despises the righteous and holds
in contempt, does G. own this Religion
to G.

what an unspeakable blessed State is this
how different from the State of mankind in
general, and from what the believers themselves
were in formerly. How unspeakably great
the Privileges are they enjoy by means of
this Relation. The Sense of this Relation
is exceeding sweet to the believing soul.
The world may provoke, unjustly men
may persecute, if G. but smile upon
the believer, and gives him an abiding
Sense of his pardoning Grace. He will
glory in the Cross of X. Religion will sweeten
all his bitter Afflictions, and make him happy
in spite of if G. and his. But to what
a glorious State does the knowledge of
G's favor lead to in if G. to some
well might the Ap. break forth in wonder
and Admiration. behold what manner
of love. how great how astonishing is
this love of God revealed unto us. that if
Almighty Creator of the universe sh. take
pity on us poor miserable wretched
helpless sinners, and not only pity us

best hand over him and admit us into his
Royal Favor. now are we the sons of G.
at present we enjoy his fatherly smiles, and
can approach him as our Father in humble
Confidence, but it does not yet appear
what we shall be. we cannot yet form
a proper idea of if glory ^{is} reserved in
Heaven for us it is invisible to mortal sight
what if happiness is which if spirits of
just men made perfect enjoy we cannot
yet tell as we can only see thro a glass
darkly, but we know if when he shall
appear, in all his glory we shall be like
him for we shall see him as he is, we
shall partake his glory and his Honor
^{is} brings us to if second thing proposed
^{is} was to show what the future state
will be.

we readily admit it if ^{is} very little is known
Respecting this. we in our present mortal
State can form no idea of spiritual and
glorified bodies. we cannot imagine how
extensive will be if capacities of if soul.
~~How capacious and clear the understanding~~
~~will be~~

what Happiness will arise from if clear what
of the understanding, when all Ignorance
Darkness are removed. what for revealed
of the Affections, and the perfect we will
the will. we have but view of whole
of perfect Holiness and perfect is if lot of
here. Even An Ap. who believers are if
transfigured on the believers are the
not appear what had been to our wicked one. our ^{is}
his transfiguring unbeliving Jews tells
his glory. your Father, the Devil, and
who? be of your Father ye will do -
to let a murderer for if beginning and
those not in if truth. because there is
no ^{is} truth in him. This is the state
of all unbelievers worst Exception. they
are the Children of the wicked one
and the lusts of their Father they
will do.

Believers can form no adequate idea
of if Happiness ^{is} arrives at. in if clear
Unbelievers have no conceptions
of if infinite misery to ^{is} they are

are hasting. They can form no idea what
it is to be punished for ^{it} and yet for bid
to die. How different will the sensations
of the righteous and the wicked be when
they shall see ^{Christ} on his Judgment seat
and are arranged before him at his
bar. For what very different Ends
will the Capacities of their souls and
bodies be enlarged. one to sustain an
infinite weight of glory and ^{happiness}
to dwell in the beatific Vision of God
forever; the other to suffer an infinite
load of misery and woe in the dreary
regions of the damned. Such ^{happens}
and as such arising about on every child
of man. on every individual in this
Assembly. As the poet expresses it. I
must ^{for} ^{God} be driven: or to my ^{native}
dwell. must come at his command
to heaven or else depart to Hell.
Let none then now defer calling upon
God. He invites you to participate his
Royal favour, now to make your

peace to him. now to stay the ^{look} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Lord}
now to enter a while. the Door is open
to the marriage supper of the Lamb. All
things are now ready - we are commanded
to tell you to come in if Gods House may
be filled. If you refuse the bar will be
at your own Door. you will have none
to pity you then, and to which of ^{if} ^{birds}
will you turn. any Excuses you may
produce in your own Justification for your
present neglect of ^{the} Gospel will avail
nothing. he that shall ^{be} found unholily
then shall remain unholily to all
Eternity. ye careless thoughtless sinners
what ^{will} ^{be} come of you when your
Day of Grace is past. when all hopes
of mercy and forgiveness are no more.
when you feel yourself under the awful
sentence of eternal Death. and have
no intercession? consider your sad and
wretched state. bewail betimes. flee
from the wrath to come. and seek for
mercy while it may be obtained

happily. How bright is the Prospect of
the true Christian. The Christian
painful warfare will soon be over.
Every Conflict lessens the Number of
his Trials. He is sure to overcome this
the blood of Jesus tried he must and
will be while here below for this is
his State of Probation. He is not yet
come to the Rest and to the Inheritance
of the S. his God has promised him.
But when his warfare ends he will
obtain that blessedness which he cannot
now conceive. He knows ^{not} how soon
Victory may be proclaimed on his
side. Another Day may put him in
full Possession of Heaven and Glory.
He can not tell how soon his S. may
call him home and put a final End
to all his sorrows and Griefs -
These Prospects animate the soul of
the pious Christian when wearied
with sin Temptation and sorrow

and comes here to repose in the S.
He justly reasons if the world despise me
and traduce my Character and speak all
manner of evil against me falsely y.
the righteous Judge will ere long vindicate
my Cause. if Satan tempt me and
travails my mind y. will shortly
crush him under my feet. If afflictions
afflict me, and my soul is disquieted
it in me they will shortly have an
End, and at the worst they are only the
Chastisements of a kind and indulgent
Father - How who will in a little
time take me to his Kingdom. and Glory.
How happy then is the real Christian.
He can derive Comfort from those things
which are in the veil - He extends his
view far beyond the grave. ^{and} they neither
seek nor expects ~~these~~ ^{his} happiness here -
His Kingdom is not of this world his Inheritance
is not corruptible but an incorruptible
one. his Life is hid in Christ y. may this
happiness be ours - many such of us seek

to become heirs of G. and saying That we
may be prepared for that eternal world
of glory so if when V. our life shall
appear in all his glory we may be like
him; and be counted worthy to see him as
he is, and with holy Rapture hear him
pronounce for his majestic Throne
come ye blessed of my father inherit the
Kingdom prepared for you from