

# **1 John 2.28-3.3**

## **The Children of God**

# Prayer Before Reading Scripture

Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered all sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

## John 5.28-29

"...the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His [Christ's] voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

## Revelation 20.11-12

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.

## Revelation 20.13-15

And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

## 1 John 2.28

And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

## 1 John 2.29

If you know that He is  
righteous, you know that  
everyone who practices  
righteousness is born of Him.

## 1 John 3.1

Behold 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 3.2

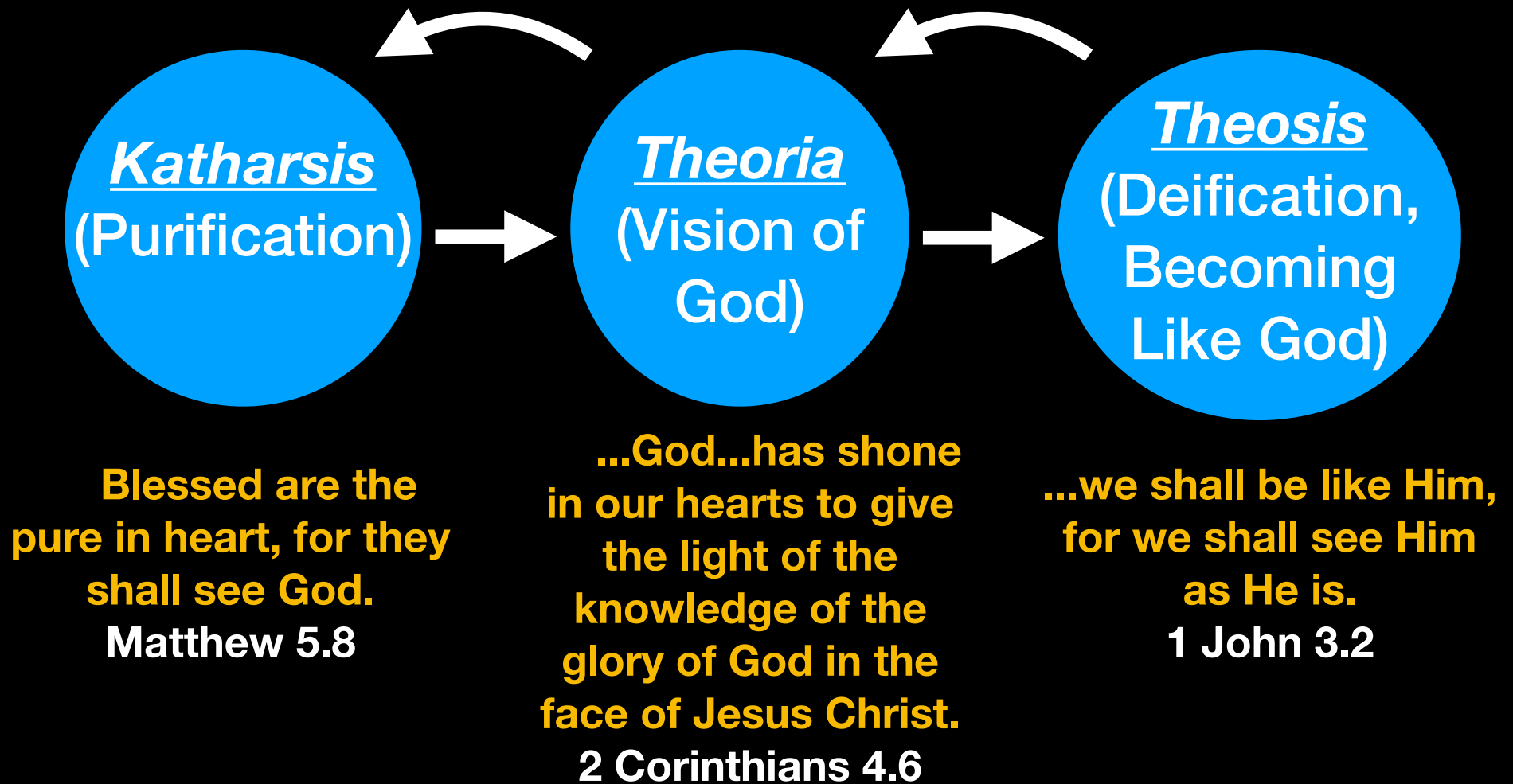
Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

# 1 John 3.3



And everyone  
who has this  
hope in Him  
purifies himself,  
just as He is pure.

# The Orthodox 3-Fold Path



**Questions?**  
**Comments?**

# St John Cassian +435 on Purification

1. Diligence in reading (the Scriptures, writings of Saints)
2. Continual calling out to God using a short prayer
3. Self-denial in fasting, alms giving
4. Some things to be aware of:
  1. God brings about circumstances to purify our hearts
  2. Purity is only achieved by God's grace
  3. The danger of pride