28…, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.[[1]](#footnote-1)

The first part of this verse, in the most loving and familial words, adjures us to “abide in Him.” The second part of this verse tells us that He is returning and will appear to His “little children.”

1. The purpose for Jesus Christ returning to this earth is to bring to its close the story of human history upon this earth and to judge every person who has ever lived. This is a constantly recurring theme throughout the Bible. *(Matt 16:27; Matt 25:31-32; John 5:22, 28-29; Jude 14, 15; Rev 20:12; 22:12)*
   1. For some it will be a time of happiness and great rejoicing.
   2. For some it will be time of weeping and great terror.
2. He will appear to His “little children.”
   1. One of the most wonderful promises that Jesus made to “His children” – those who believe in and follow Him – was that He would return for them.
   2. The cares, struggles, and sorrows of this world will be ended and the events of the end will begin.
      1. There will be the Judgment Seat of Christ for believers.
         1. For some this will be a time of great joy.
         2. For some it will be a time of shame and regret.
      2. The works of the believer will determine what kind of time they will encounter.
         * 1. Those who have faithfully and obediently served and have produced fruit will rejoice and be happy. They will receive rewards.
         1. Those who have been lukewarm, carnal, and inconsistent in their service and commitment will be filled with remorse and regret. They will suffer loss of rewards.

1. [*The Holy Bible: King James Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/kjv1900?ref=BibleKJV.1Jn2.28&off=0&ctx=ll+abide+in+%7C%7C%EF%BB%BFhim.+~28%C2%A0And+now%2c+little+c). (2009). (Electronic Edition of the 1900 Authorized Version., 1 Jn 2:28). Bellingham, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)