INTRODUCTION:
1. Three basic questions of man:
   a. Who am I?
   b. How did I get here?
   c. Where am I going?
2. Our concern with first question; answers the other two.
3. Can be asked with emphasis on each word.
4. Always answered with superficial response, name, job, parents.
5. Deeper consideration:
   a. We continually ask ourselves this question.
   b. How should we act?
   c. How do others perceive me? “O, what a wonderful seer to be, to see myself as others see me.” (anonymous)
6. Crucial that we answer it correctly.

I. WE ARE NOT WHAT OTHERS THINK OF US

A. Others’ view of us flawed. (3 seconds to size up)
   1. Others might not think highly enough of us.
   2. On other hand, they may think too highly of us. Lk 6:26
      a. Preachers may fall into this category.
      b. Parents and children see through tinted glasses.
      c. Illustration: Joe Garagiola on retiring from baseball
   3. Others cannot know us very well. 1 Cor. 2:11
B. Examples from the Bible; David and Saul, Jeremiah and kings of Judah, Jesus and Jewish leaders. John 7:20
C. We can be thankful then, that we are not what others think of us.

II. WE ARE NOT WHAT WE THINK OF OURSELVES

A. We cannot know ourselves very well. Jeremiah 17:9
B. We can easily deceive ourselves. Gal. 6:3
   1. Too easy on ourselves - Ann Landers quote
   2. Too hard on ourselves

III. WE ARE WHAT GOD THINKS OF US

A. Only God can know us perfectly. Jeremiah 17:10
B. John 3:16
C. 2 Peter 3:9
D. Ephesians 2:1-6

Joe Garagiola: “Each year I don't play I get better!” said Joe Garagiola. “The first year on the banquet trail I was a former ballplayer, the second year I was great, the third year one of baseball's stars, and just last year I was introduced as one of baseball's immortals. The older I get, the more I realize that the worst break I had was playing.”

Ann Landers: Know Yourself. Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful.