



Part 4: Love Overcomes

1 John 2:7-14

Sunday, August 23, 2020

You cannot love God without loving your spiritual family. Love one another is an old a new command and it is living proof to this world that God is at work in your life.

Setting the Scene:

- We walk in the light when we have fellowship with God.
Fellowship with God + Fellowship with Believers= Pure Joy
- We walk in the light when we confess our sins.
- We walk in the light when we obey Him.

*We walk in the light when we love those around us.

2:7 Dear friends (Beloved) A collective term for the Christian community John is addressing. The Greek term used here, *agapētoi*, communicates John's love and compassion.¹

We have viewed love as attraction, which, when the feeling passes, may be directed elsewhere. We rarely hear calls for obedience and love as work. In each case such calls may cost me my freedom. They may limit my spontaneity. They may put boundaries around what I can and cannot do.²

- To love others is a choice. When we make an intentional choice, feelings and emotions can come out of that. Jesus choose to go to the cross. His love for us is deeper than a feeling.
- When we think of church, we should think of Christ followers loving Christ Followers.

The Command to Love Other Believers

1 It is something old. (1 John 2:7)

¹⁸ "Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against a fellow Israelite, but **love your neighbor** as yourself. I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:18

- His commandment to love has never changed.

³⁷ Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with **all** your heart and with **all** your soul and with **all** your mind.³⁸ This is the **first and greatest commandment**.³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:37-39, NIV

¹¹ This is the message you have heard from the **beginning**: We should love one another. 1 John 3:11

⁴ How happy I was to meet some of your children and find them living according to the truth, just as the Father commanded.⁵ I am writing to remind you, dear friends, that we should love one another. **This is not a new commandment, but one we have had from the beginning. Love means doing what God has commanded us, and he has commanded us to love one another,** just as you heard from the beginning. 2 John 1:4-6

2. It is something new. (1 John 2:8)

- The love of God is viewed in new light, through the person of Jesus.

³⁴ So now I am giving you a **new** commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." John 13:34-35

- Loving Others is a result of walking in the light (Abiding in Him) It flows out a relationship with God.

¹ Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). *Faithlife Study Bible* (1 Jn 2:7). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.

² Burge, G. M. (1996). *Letters of John* (p. 104). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

"I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. ¹⁰When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! ¹²This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. John 15:9-12

- Seeing Jesus first hand, people always were encountered love, this includes the rejected, downtrodden, poor, destitute, hurting. They saw love.

3. It is living proof. (1 John 12:9-11)

⁷Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7

The Greek word for "hate" means to spit at one's heart in disgust. When I go the way of hatred, I am walking in the way of darkness. The word translated here by the word "hate" means to detest, to abhor.³

- The test of obedience to the command to love surfaces when we encounter people who are hard to love.

(v. 11). The tragedy of hatred is always twofold. First, there is the harm it does to the neighbor; second, there is the harm it does to the person who hates. Hatred, according to John, blurs vision and sets into place a basic disorientation and confusion. Love clears the head; hatred confuses the head. There is even a greater danger: we become like that which we do. When we choose the strategy or tactics of darkness we inevitably end up under the control of darkness.⁴

If we love our Christian brothers and sisters, **it proves that we have passed from death to life.** But a person who has no love is still dead. 1 John 3:1

³¹**Get rid** of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. ³²Instead, **be kind** to each other, **tenderhearted, forgiving one another,** just as God through Christ has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:31-32

In order to maintain loving relationship that are Christ-Centered, we must maintain an attitude of thankfulness.

- Vs 12,14 – Remind one another that we are forgiven and we know the Father.
- Vs 13,14- Listen to those who are mature in the faith
- Vs. 13-14 –Learn from the young who are strong in the Lord and know God's Word.

Last Thoughts:

- What relationship needs mending?
- What relationship needs an apology?
- What relationship needs an investment?
- What relationship needs to be initiated?
- We relationship needs to be appreciated?

How are doing in letting God lead I and show you who might you love with the same commitment as Christ?

³ Palmer, E. F., & Ogilvie, L. J. (1982). [1, 2 & 3 John / Revelation](#) (Vol. 35, p. 41). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Inc.

⁴ Palmer, E. F., & Ogilvie, L. J. (1982). [1, 2 & 3 John / Revelation](#) (Vol. 35, p. 41). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Inc.