

Love One Another

English “Love”

Includes everything from . . .

- appetite to immorality
- ice cream to adultery
- trees to bees

I. What Do You Call Love?

Four Words

1. 'Erotic' love; sensual relations – Pr.7:18.
2. Family love – Ro.1:31.
3. Attraction, affection, delight – Mt.10:37.
4. Love of will, purpose, determination –
 - a. Virtue, moral quality; can die, Mt.24:12.
 - b. Act of will.
 - c. Supreme example: God, Ro.5:7-8, 10.

I. What Do You Call Love?

II. We Are Commanded
To Love

Mt.5:21-26

- Without love, cannot worship acceptably.
- If we are at odds with a brother, God refuses our offering.
- Mt.5 warns: if you don't love him on earth, don't worry about seeing him in heaven.

Settle out of court!

Mt.5:38-42

- If guided by feelings (return insult for insult) it is not love.
- Love acts regardless of emotions.
 - Turn other cheek
 - Yield on petty things
 - Be a giver
 - Go the second mile

Mt.5:43-48

- Without love, no better than worldly people

Mt.18:15-17

- Without love, we lose our purpose.
- Goal: not to get our way but to gain the brother.
 - Lk.15, Lord does what He requires.
 - Lk.23:37, prays for own murderers.

Mt.22:37-39

- Without love, we fail in everything.

1st commandment
comprehends every
duty we owe God

2nd commandment
comprehends every
duty we owe people

Jn.13:34-35

- OT standard: Lv.19:18
- NT standard: 'As I have loved you...'
–Jn.13:1; 15:13

1 Pt.1:22, four words

- Philadelphia: love of brother / sister
- Genuine, sincere: unhypocritical
- From pure heart: no selfish motives
- Eagerly, fervently, constantly:
 - Forgiveness replaces revenge, 4:8

I. What Do You Call Love?

II. We Are Commanded To Love

III. We Can Learn
To Love – 1 John

John, Mk.3:17

- Opposite of 'Apostle of love'
- Self-seeking, Fault-finder, Thundering executioner, Lk.9:46...49...54
- LIVING ON LOVE made a new man

What John did,
we can do also

A matter of choice, 1 Jn.2:9-10

- Tertullian
- Ammianus (d. 390): enmity of 'Christians' surpassed fury of savage beasts against man

Reveals parentage, 1 Jn.3:10-15

- Murder?
- Hate?

The high bar, 1 Jn.3:16-17

- Before Jesus, world could not know such love.
 - Instead of murder, self-sacrifice.
- “But my brethren aren’t worth dying for.”

A stingy Christian
is a contradiction

The warning, 1 Jn.3:17-20

- Not sentiment but deeds
- 17: some lock chamber of heart...
 - God did not lock His heart
 - Can we be His children with ours locked?

The test, 1 Jn.4:20-21

- “If say...” guards against mere profession.
- What God has joined together . . .

The motivation, 1 Jn.5:1-3

- Love for God is inner source.
- Love for brothers is outward expression.
- Faith in Christ is motivation for both.
 - Not burdensome: heavy, severe

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‘We who love do not work. For all work that is not for love is heavy.’

‘But those who have the Lord on their lips, but whose heart is hardened and far from the Lord, His commandments are hard and impassable.’