

# ***“How’s Your Love Life?”***

**1 John 3:11-18**

November 10, 2013

**VIDEO:**        *Doctrine Matters!*

“Biblically speaking...  
what you believe is who you become.” – JDP

Consequently, what you believe about ‘church’... will  
dictate what (if any) church you will become.

Hence, God’s inspired Word... and book of 1<sup>st</sup> John.

Walk thru 1 John up to this point... Read 1:1 – 3:10

## **“CONTENT in CONTEXT”**

**1 Passion:**        bringing **glory to God** thru the sharing & spreading  
of the **Gospel** of Jesus, the Christ.

**2 Priorities:**        **Define & Defend** the one TRUE Church

**3 Pillars:**        **Truth,                    Love,                    Faithful Obedience**

#### **4 Purposes:**

- A. **Promote** “koinonia” / joy (1:3-4)
- B. **Prevent** sin (2:1)
- C. **Protect** against the false teachers (2:26)
- D. **Provide** “assurance” for true Christians (5:13)

#### **5 Pragmatic Proofs**

1. WALK in the Light or the Dark
2. OBEY or Disobey God’s Word
3. PATTERNS of one’s life tells their real story
4. WORLD or Worship
5. KNOW Him vs. NO Him

1 John 1:1 - 2:27 = **Basis for koinonia...**

= *abiding in God’s LIGHT*

**1<sup>st</sup> John “BLOCKS” thus far: An Exegetical Flow...**

1:1-2 = We KNOW this TRUTH... Jesus is the eternal Light!

1:3-4 = Real LOVE... is “koinonia,” vertically & horizontally

v.3 = *We **proclaim** to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have “**koinonia**” with us. And our “**koinonia**” is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.*

1:5,7,9 = Proclaiming the “who & how-to” of the good news!

1:6,8,10 = Warnings are declared... **Somebody’s lying!**

2:1-2 = Don’t sin... Don’t worry... Don’t forget!

2:3-6 = **Beware the Liars!** = *We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. [4](#)Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. [5](#)But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: [6](#)Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.*

2:15-17 = *Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them.*

2:18-27 = Watch out! ...for your old antichrist friends who left

1 John 2:28ff = **Behavior from koinonia...**

= *abiding in God’s LOVE*

- A. Characteristics of koinonia
- B. Consequences of (or the lack of) koinonia

**2:28** = Confident assurance comes by abiding vs. shrinking

*“And now little children, **abide in Him** so that when He appears we may have confidence and NOT shrink (back) from Him in shame, at His coming.”*

**3:10** = **Children** of God AND **children** of **the devil** are **OBVIOUS!**

*By this the children of God (Tek-non ThA-os) and the **children of the devil** (Tek-non dE-ob-O-los) **are obvious**: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.*

**KEY CONCEPT** in moving forward this morning:

We need a biblical understanding of the terms **“love”** and **“brother”** (which include by reference the “one another” quotes as well)...

See **Matthew 12:50** = *whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.*

## See **Matthew 7:21-27**

- a. Resumes vs. Real-Relationships
- b. In spite of... vs. "because of..."
- c. Some will be SHOCKED on Judgment Day
- d. Houses = lives... Storm = Judgment Day...
  - 1. Both look the same from outside...
  - 2. Only one will stand...
  - 3. Thus... only ONE is safe...
  - 4. The ROCK is REAL & home to the holy!

## **1 Corinthians 13:1-8 = "Love is..."**

Hebrew #1 = **A-hEEb**

Similar to English... General use

Greek:

**Store-gEE** = normal  
(mom/babe relationship)

**Phil-A-O** = brotherly love

**Air-O-se** = erotic sexual love  
\*\*\* Key: not found in NT

**AGAPE!**

***Agape begins with faithful obedience***

**AGAPE =**

Christ-like umbrella love

- loves the unlovely

- Romans 5:8 epitomizes

- For the joy set before Him...

*Agape* = God's motive, our mission

**John 13:34-35 =**

1. personal *mission*

2. personal (eternal) *test*

**1 Corinthians 13:4-8 =** the "love is" def.

\* Key: this list was given to :

A. Correct

B. Contrast (dark lies)

Now read **1 Corinthians 13:1-3...**

\* "If you have not love..."

\* "***...clanging cymbals... gongs!***"

**- Agape is not emotion but devotion!**

- Agape is God's gift to us, and our gift to give away

- Agape is the fuel of faith & fertilizer of koinonia. - JDP

- There are no mirrors in an agape heart...
- Let us pray & obey for agape...
- Agape is BOTH... Vertical & Horizontal
- Faith, hope, & LOVE... #1 = love
- Superficial vs Supernatural
- "G.O.D." Love

\* G = Gift (Jesus) - John 3:16

\* O = Outreach - Matthew 28:18-20

Focus on Luke 15

\* 3 parables on lost/love

\* D = Definition - 1 Cor 13:1-8

**T/S: v.10 to v.11 = Obvious & "ODD"**

Question: Is this an "obligation" or "opportunity?"

**ORACLE & OBSESSION = 11** *For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another;*

- 11: Original Truth -
- "the message"
  - "from the beginning"
  - LOVE ONE ANOTHER!

**OPPOSITE (OATH ONLY) = 12** *not as Cain, who was of the evil one and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous.*

- 12: Opposite Truth
- "do not be like Cain"
  - (we ARE our brothers keeper)
  - KEY: "why did he murder him?"
  - "because his deeds evil"

Dig into motive

Dig into religious activity

Dig into literal brother that kills literal brother...

vs

real koinonia

--- Christ redefines "blood brothers"

- "...his brother's righteous"

"Dark hates light, wrong hates right" – JDP

"religious DOing always attacks righteous BEing" - JDP

**OPENLY OFFENSIVE = 13** *Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you.*

13: Hated Truth

- "Don't be surprised"
- "brothers"
- "that the WORLD"
- "HATES you"

**OUT-Pouring & OBITUARY = 14** *We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.*

14: Living & Dying Truth

- loving brothers live
- unloving brothers die

**ON-Going OUTLAW = 15** *Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.*

15: Killing Truth

- haters murder and then die

**OVERWHELMING ORIGINAL = 16a** *We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us;*

**OBJECTIVE (OUGHT-To) = 16b** and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

16: Modeling Truth

- know
- Christ
- Christ-like
- "for the brothers"

## **VIDEO:**

Team Long Brothers (Conner & Cayden)

**OUTRAGE & OBSCENE = 17** But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him?

17: Testing Truth

**VIDEO:** Harvey Carey

**OVERT OBEDIENCE OVERCOMES = 18** Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in action and in truth.

v.18 = Proving Truth

Remember: **Philippians 4:13** & **2 Peter 1:3**

# Love: Him, Us, Others!

## Love: Up, In, Out!

### Love I.N.C.

Message #1:

Source & Standard of biblical love

- Great Commandments
- 1 Cor. 13.... Gong/Cymbals
- Vertical & Horizontal
- Faith, hope, & LOVE... #1 = love
- Superficial vs Supernatural
- G.O.D.
  - \* G = Gift (Jesus) John 3:16
  - \* O = Outreach
  - \* D = Definition (1 Cor 13:1-8)
- G = Focus on John 3:16
  - \* Source, Standard & essence...
  - God

--- so loved  
--- He gave  
--- whosoever

- O = Focus on Luke 15

\* 3 parables on lost/love

--- Dissect 15:1 for contrast

Parallel to Lord's Prayer...

Jesus goes & says come

HE goes & gets personal

--- Note the value system...

One vs many...

Priceless ONE sheep

All heaven rejoices over 1

--- Prodigal highlights...

Unconditional love

Crazy Fatherly love...

2 different responses:

\*\*\* Repent & Restored

Happy to serve

Dad... I owe you...

\*\*\* Religious & Ruined!

Expects to be served

Dad...you owe me

Stress consequences of  
hard-heartedness.

--- Lost in spite of love :-)

Holy love seeks, serves, & celebrates

Equip, Encourage, & Empower greater Christ-likeness.

Summary from Prodigal:

1. Seek Him & His love...
2. Serve others & share His love...
3. Be compassionate to ALL

#### 4. Celebrate the reality of His love!

Message #2:

Defining of Love - 1 Cor. 13

Acronym for love: BEAUTIFUL

B = Beautiful

E = Everything (agape is...)  
- Great Commandments

A = Able (God is love, love is able...)  
- Great Commission  
- 3 boys & the furnace...

U = Unashamed (see Romans 1:16)

T = Timeless

I = Inclusive ("whosoever" 3:16)

F = Faith-shaped (agape is...)

U = Unearned (agape a gift of grace)

L = Likeable (by the lost turned lover)

Message #3: Love does... 1 John 3

- biblical love will blow you away!
- 14 attributes: Acrostic (1st letters used to create defining sentence)

Agape transforms people into a grace filled passionate servants giving opportunity to each and every Christian to please God & serve others and to assist the Holy Spirit as He changes eternity.

Agape changes the world!

- 3:1 = adopts
- 3:2 = truly transforms (clean cup)
- 3:3 = purifies
- 3:10 = identifies (true Christians)
- 3:13 = attacked (by hypocrites)
- 3:14 = paves the way to eternal life
- 3:16 = sacrifices (no limitations)
- 3:17 =
- 3:18 = engages & exemplifies
- 3:19 = cultivates (peace of mind)
- 3:22 = obeys (God & His Word)
- 3:22 = pleases (God)
- 3:23 = summarizes (Christianity)
- 3:24 = accompanies (the Spirit)

**Agape love makes disciples!**