

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY INSTITUTE

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I JOHN 2 VS 8

“SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW “ (PART 2)

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SCRIPTURE: I JOHN 2 VS. 8 – YET I AM WRITING YOU A NEW COMMAND; ITS TRUTH IS SEEN **IN HIM** AND **YOU**, BECAUSE THE DARKNESS IS PASSING AND THE TRUE LIGHT IS ALREADY SHINING.

LAST WEEK WE FOUND OUT THAT THE COMMANDMENT TO **“LOVE ONE ANOTHER** “IS NOT NEW IN TIME, BUT IT IS NEW IN CHARACTER. BECAUSE OF JESUS CHRIST, THE OLD COMMANDMENT TO **“LOVE ONE ANOTHER** “HAS TAKEN ON NEW MEANING. AS WE LOOKED AT VERSE NUMBER 7 WE LEARNED THE FIRST WAY THAT THE OLD COMMANDMENT TO” **LOVE ONE ANOTHER”** IS NEW:

I **IN EMPHASIS** (I JOHN 2 VS. 7)

AS WE CONTINUE IN VERSE NUMBER 8 – WE SEE FROM ITS CONTENTS THAT NOT ONLY IS THE OLD COMMANDMENT MADE NEW IN **EMPHASIS** BUT IT IS ALSO MADE NEW

II. **IN EXAMPLE** (I JOHN 2 VS. 8) “LOVE ONE ANOTHER “JOHN POINTED OUT, WAS FIRST TRUE IN CHRIST, AND NOW IT IS TRUE IN THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO ARE TRUSTING CHRIST. JESUS HIMSELF IS THE GREATEST EXAMPLE OF THIS COMMANDMENT. WHEN WE LOOK AT JESUS CHRIST WE SEE LOVE IN TWO WAYS:

1. **EMBODIED** – TO GIVE A CONCRETE FORM TO; TO EXPRESS, PERSONIFY , EXEMPLIFY IN CONCRETE FORM
2. **EXEMPLIFIED** – TO SHOW OR ILLUSTRATE BY EXAMPLE ; TO FURNISH OR SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE

IN COMMANDING US TO LOVE, JESUS DOES NOT ASK US TO DO SOMETHING THAT HE HAS NOT ALREADY DONE HIMSELF. THE FOUR GOSPELS (MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND JOHN) RECORD THE ACCOUNTS OF A LIFE LIVED IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE- AND THAT LIFE WAS LIVED UNDER CONDITIONS FAR FROM IDEAL. JESUS SAYS TO US, IN EFFECT, “I LIVED BY THIS GREAT COMMANDMENT, AND I CAN ENABLE YOU TO FOLLOW MY EXAMPLE.”

JESUS ILLUSTRATED LOVE BY THE VERY LIFE THAT HE LIVED HE NEVER SHOWED:

1. **HATRED**– IN TENSE DISLIKE
2. **MALICE** - A DESIRE TO INFLICT INJURY, HARM OR SUFFERING ON ANOTHER EITHER BECAUSE OF A HOSTILE IMPULSE OR OUT OF DEEP – SEATED MEANNESS

HE HATED ALL SIN, BUT HE NEVER HATTED PEOPLE WHO COMMITTED SUCH SINS. EVEN IN HIS RIGHTEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT OF JUDGMENT, THERE WAS ALWAYS AN UNDERCURRENT OF LOVE.

IT IS ENCOURAGING TO LOOK AT THE DIFFERENT PEOPLE JESUS LOVED

A. HIS 12 DISCIPLES – AS MANY TIMES AS THEY BROKE HIS HEART BY:

- **TRYING TO KEEP PEOPLE FROM SEEING HIM**
- **ARGUING OVER WHO IS THE GREATEST**

HE WAS PATIENT WITH:

PETERS – IMPULSIVENESS

THOMAS'S – UNBELIEF

JUDAS'S - TREACHERY

B. DIFFERENT PEOPLE – JUST A FEW

- **PUBLICAN AND SINNERS – (LUKE 15 VS. 1)**
- **LOWEST OF THE LOW – (LUKE 7 VS. 36-39)**
- **NICODEMUS – (JOHN 3 VS. 1-21)**

C. HIS ENEMIES – JUST A FEW

- **ACCUSATIONS OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS (MAT 12 VS. 24)**
- **MOB THAT CAME TO ARREST HIM HE YIELDED TO THEM (JOHN 15 VS. 13)**
- **THOSE THAT CRUCIFIED HIM**

JESUS IS THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF WHAT IT MEANS TO LOVE IN HIS:

- A. LIFE**
- B. TEACHINGS**
- C. DEATH**

THIS IS WHAT HELPS MAKE THE COMMANDMENT “NEW. “ IN CHRIST WE HAVE A NEW ILLUSTRATION OF THE OLD TRUTH THAT GOD IS LOVE AND THAT THE LIFE OF LOVE IS A LIFE OF JOY AND VICTORY.

IN LIGHT OF THAT – THEN IF WE ARE IN CHRIST, THEN WHAT IS TRUE IN CHRIST OUGHT TO BE TRUE IN EVERY BELIEVER.

1 JOHN 4 VS. 17 – “AS HE IS, SO ARE WE IN THIS WORLD” - A BELIEVER SHOULD LIVE A LIFE OF LOVE CHRISTIAN LOVE “ BECAUSE THE DARKNESS IS PASSING AWAY, AND THE TRUE LIGHT IS ALREADY SHINING “ (1 JOHN 2 VS. 8) THIS REMINDS US OF THE EMPHASIS OF “ WALKING IN THE LIGHT “ (1 JOHN 1 VS. 1)

THE DARKNESS IS PASSING AWAY, BUT THE LIGHT DOES NOT YET SHINE FULLY ALL OVER THE WORLD, NOR DOES IT PENETRATE EVERY AREA OF EVEN A BELIEVERS LIFE.

NOTE: WHEN CHRIST WAS BORN, (LUKE 1 VS. 78) SAYS – ***THE DAYSPRING FROM ON HIGH VISITED THE WORLD.*** “***DAY SPRING***” MEANS SUNRISE. THE BIRTH OF CHRIST WAS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW DAY FOR MANKIND! AS HE LIVED BEFORE MEN HE TAUGHT THEM AND MINISTERED TO THEM, HE SPREAD THE LIGHT OF LIFE AND LOVE. (MAT 4 VS. 16) SAYS- ***“THE PEOPLE WHO SAT IN THE DARKNESS SAW A GREAT LIGHT; AND TO THEM WHICH SAT IN THE REGION AND SHADOW OF DEATH LIGHT IS SPRUNG UP.”***

BUT THERE IS A CONFLICT IN THIS WORLD BETWEEN THE FORCES OF:

1. **LIGHT** – CHRIST IS THE “***SUN OF RIGHTEOUS***” AND HE EXTENDS HIS KINGDOM BY THE MEANS OF :
 - **TRUTH**
 - **LOVE**
2. **DARKNESS** – SATAN IS THE “***PRINCE OF DARKNESS***” AND HE EXTENDS HIS KINGDOM BY THE MEANS OF :
 - **LIES**
 - **HATRED**

JOHN 1 VS. 5 – “AND THE LIGHT IS SHINING IN THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS IS NOT ABLE TO PUT IT OUT “

THE KINGDOMS OF CHRIST AND OF SATAN ARE IN CONFLICT TODAY, BUT (PROV 4 VS. 18) SAYS- ***“ THE PATH OF THE JUST IS THE SHINING LIGHT, THAT SHINETH MORE AND MORE ONTO A PERFECT DAY “***

NOTE: THE DARKNESS IS PASSING AWAY LITTLE BY LITTLE (EVEN IN THE LIFE OF A BELIEVER AS HE YIELDS TO THE HOLY SPIRIT) AND THE TRUE LIGHT IS SHINING BRIGHT IN OUR HEARTS.

JESUS CHRIST IS THE STANDARD OF LOVE FOR CHRISTIANS. ***“ A NEW COMMANDMENT I GIVE UNTO YOU, THAT YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER, “*** HE SAID , ***“ AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, THAT YE ALSO LOVE ONE ANOTHER “*** (JOHN 13 VS 33)

AND HE REPEATED: ***“THIS IS MY COMMANDMENT, THAT YE LOVE ONE ANOTHER, AS I HAVE LOVED YOU “***(JOHN 15 VS. 12)

CLOSE: WE ARE NOT TO MEASURE OUR CHRISTIAN LOVE AGAINST THE LOVE OF SOME OTHER CHRISTIAN (AND WE USUALLY PICK SOMEONE WHOSE LIFE IS MORE OF AN EXCUSE THAN OF AN EXAMPLE!)BUT AGAINST THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. THE OLD COMMANDMENT BECOMES ***“NEW”*** TO US AS WE SEE IT FULFILLED IN CHRIST.

SO THE COMMANDMENT “LOVE ONE ANOTHER “IS NEW IN:

EMPHASIS BUT IT IS ALSO NEW **IN EXAMPLE.**