

“A SECOND LOOK AT THE TEST OF LOVE”

1 John 3:11-18 (*First Look > 2:7-11*)

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Those who truly belong to God in Christ will live and love after the pattern of Jesus rather than after the pattern of the world.

I. THE MESSAGE FROM THE BEGINNING. 3:11

Love One Another

II. THE HATRED OF THE WORLD. 3:12-15

Do Not Follow the Example of Cain

A. Negatively speaking ...

1. Hatred is typified in Adam's firstborn, Cain. 12
2. Hatred originates with the Devil. 12, 15
3. Hatred divides people and may result in the taking of life. 12, 15
4. Hatred is motivated by personal sin. 12
5. Hatred is evidence of spiritual death. 14, 15

B. Positively speaking ...

1. Love is at the heart of the Gospel. 11-13
2. Love provides assurance we have eternal life. 14-15

III. THE LOVE OF THE CHURCH. 3:16-18

Follow the Example of Jesus Christ

A. Contrasting Love with Hatred ...

1. Love is typified in God's Son, Christ. 16
2. Love originates with God. 17
3. Love unites people and results in laying down our lives for others. 16, 17
4. Love is motivated by God's love in Christ. 16
5. Love is evidence of spiritual life. 14

B. Comparing Christ with Christians ...

1. It may mean dying for your brother in Christ. 16
2. It always involves giving to brothers in need. 17, 18

Living out the Gospel means having open ears (3:11), open eyes (3:17), open heart (3:17), and open hands (3:18).

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. (1 John 3:23) / 7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. (1 John 4:7) / 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. (1 John 4:11-12) / 5 And now I ask you, dear lady—not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning—that we love one another. (2 John 5)

³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. (John 13:34) / 12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.” (John 15:12) / 17 These things I command you, so that you will love one another. (John 15:17)

¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. (Romans 12:10) / 8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. (Romans 13:8)

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. (Galatians 5:13)

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, (Ephesians 4:1-2)

¹²and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, (1 Thessalonians 3:12) / 9 Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, (1 Thessalonians 4:9)

²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, (Hebrews 10:24)

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, (1 Peter 1:22) / 8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. (1 Peter 4:8)