

If We Abide in Christ, We Will Obey His Commands and Love His People (1 John 2:3-11)

Vss. 1-2 – a brief review

- I. It is possible to know that we have come to know Him – v. 3a, 1 John 5:11-13**
Know and Know

It is right and good to test yourself, whether you are in the faith - 2Cor. 13:5; Mt 7:16

- II. Those who know Christ savingly, will keep His commandments – v. 3b-4**

A. Seeking to please Him by keeping His commandments
James 2:14,17-18; Eph. 5:8-9

B. Not perfectly, but from the heart - 1 John 1:8; Rom. 7:15-16; John 21:15-17

C. Increasingly - 2 Peter 1:4-11; 1 Tim. 4:14-16

- III. The keeping of Christ's word is an indication of our love for Him – v. 5**
John 14:15; 1John 5:3; 1 Cor. 13:3

A working definition of biblical love: Agape love is other-centered, self-sacrificing, willful affection (inclination of the soul) toward the ultimate good of the other person. It is manifested in affections, actions, and words that promote that ultimate good.

- IV. Keeping Christ's commands means we live in the way He lived – v. 6**

A. Abides

- 1. Habitual fellowship with Christ as an enduring active relationship**
- 2. Includes fellowship, friendship, dependence, harmony, communion, obedience**

B. Abiding in Him results in being increasingly like Him - Prov. 13:20; 22:24-25; 2 Cor. 3:18
Specific ways? - John 13:15; 1 Cor. 11:1; Eph. 5:2; 1 Peter 2:21
Seems impossible? - Phil. 2:12-13

- V. Not a new commandment – v. 7**

A. Beloved

B. What is the commandment

- 1. John had been speaking of commandments, but now focuses down on a specific commandment**
- 2. Love of the brethren – Rom. 13:8-10**

C. Not new: Lev. 19:18; Luke 10:29-37; Matt. 5:43-48

D. From the beginning – 1 John 3:11; 2 John 1:5-6

- VI. Yet, it is a new commandment – v. 8**
 - A. Love freshly and deeply embodied in Christ - John 13:33-34; 1 John 3:16**
 - B. Energized in us by the Holy Spirit – John 14:15-17; Gal. 5:22a**
 - C. In a time where the darkness is passing away and the true Light is already shining – John 1:4-5,9; Luke 1:76-79**

- VII. All who walk in the Light love their brothers and sisters**