

The Gospel of John

The Passion of Christ John 12-21



John 15:9-17

2/2/20 AM

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Introduction:

I. FELLOWSHIP THAT COMES FROM OBEDIENCE (15:9-11)

A. Abide in His Love (vs. 9)

- “just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you”
- “abide in My love”

“To abide in Christ is, on the one hand, to have no known sin unjudged and unconfessed, no interest into which He is not brought, no life which He cannot share. On the other hand, the abiding one takes all burdens to Him, and draws all wisdom, life, and strength from Him. It is not unceasing consciousness of these things, and of Him, but that nothing is allowed in the life which separates from Him.”

New Scofield Reference Bible, p. 1148

B. Obey His Commandments (vs. 10)

- “if you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love”
- “just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love”

C. Focus on His Joy (vs. 11)

- “these things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you”
- “and that your joy may be made full”

II. FRIENDSHIP THAT FLOWS OUT OF SERVICE (15:12-15)

A. Friends of Jesus love one another. (vs. 12-13)

- “this is My commandment, that you love one another...”
- “...just as I have loved you”
- “greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends”

B. Friends of Jesus obey His commandments. (vs. 14)

- “you are My friends if you do what I command you”

C. Friends of Jesus listen for the Father’s wishes. (vs. 15)

- “no longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing”
- “but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you”

III. FRUIT-BEARING THAT RESULTS FROM SOVEREIGN CHOICE (15:16-17)

A. Chosen by Him (vs.16a)

- “you did not choose Me but I chose you”

B. Commissioned to Bear Fruit (vs. 16b)

- “and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit”
- “and that your fruit would remain”

C. Commended to Make Requests Known (vs. 16c)

- “so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you”

D. Commanded to Love One Another (vs. 17)

- “this I command you, that you love one another”

Conclusion:

- 1) If you wish to grow closer to Christ, learn what it means to abide in Him.
- 2) For this to happen, His words must abide in you.
- 3) None of this works, if you don't obey His commandments.
- 4) Be concerned with your fruit production.
- 5) One of those essential commandments is a “love for the brethren”.

Galatians 5:13 - “through love serve one another”

Galatians 6:10 - “So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and *especially to those who are of the household of the faith.*”

I Thessalonians 4:9-10 - “Now as to the love of the brethren, you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; for indeed you do practice it toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, to excel still more....”

II Thessalonians 1:3 - “the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater”

Hebrews 13:1 - “Let love of the brethren continue.”

I Peter 1:22 - “Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart....”

I John 3:14 - “We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.”

Food for Thought:

- 1) What does it mean and *how* exactly does a believer “abide in Christ's love”?
- 2) What should be the evident results of abiding in Christ?
- 3) How do you love someone that you don't like?
- 4) Obedience is not legalism but obedience can become legalistic. How?