

Next Sermon 8.....THE COST OF LOVE...

STEVE: Hermeneutics process list again....

Observation, Contextualization, Correlation, Interpretation, Application, Transformation

1John 3:13 Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you. 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. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life **abiding** in him.

¹⁶ We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

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? ¹⁸ **Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.** ¹⁹ We will know by this that we are of the truth, and will assure our heart before Him ²⁰ in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart and knows all things. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²² and whatever we ask we receive from Him, **because** we keep His **commandments** and do the things that are pleasing in His sight. **1John 3:23 This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.** ²⁴ The one who keeps **His commandments** **abides** in **Him**, and **He** in **him**. **We** know by this that **He** **abides** in us, by the **Spirit** whom **He** has given us.

FIRST 3 VERSES

1John 3:13 *Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you. 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. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life **abiding** in him.*

POINT: It's hard to know how much of FIRST JOHN is written to combat the False Teachers and Anti-Christ's in the early church before John's writing, *but a LACK OF LOVE sure seems to be one of their primary traits!*

1. **Funerals and animosity or occasional blowback sharing your faith! (ED)**
2. **If non-believers hate you,** because you are modeling the love of Christ, consider it a badge of honor because they hated Jesus too!!!
3. **Hate is the opposite of LOVE and Hatred of your brother or sister in Christ,** is Murder from the heart!.....**Jesus said "If you hate your brother.."**
4. **It's easy to slip into hatred of another believer, when we FORGET** God calls us TO "GRACE" others as often as He graces you and I....
5. **DON'T MISS JOHN'S FAV WORD.....**"Abide"**** is the key to interpretation!

NEXT VERSE-WHAT DOES GRACE/LOVE LOOK LIKE?

¹⁶ *We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.* No Problem right? ☺

So another believer makes you mad, SINS AGAINST YOU...and what is your first response (**Lay down your life for them right?** ☺ Jesus did it for you!)

Rom. 5:7-8 *For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

NEXT VERSE - 17 John is going practical now! (*Heart to Heart...from God?*)

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?* ¹⁸ **Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.**

POINT: Don't look for excuses to NOT help others, but rather look at others misfortune as an opportunity to show them what the tangible love of Jesus LOOKS LIKE! (*Those with gift of giving can probably ignore me on this one ☺*) (*Steve: Share two people God put in my life to teach me how to have a softer heart-Fight default to dismiss others*)

James 2:1 *My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism. ² For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, ³ and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool," ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives? ⁵ **Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith** and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? ⁶ **But you have dishonored the poor man.** Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court? ⁷ Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called? ⁸ If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law*

according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. ⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

NEXT 3 VERSES=God knows my heart and so do I.

¹⁹ We will know by this that we are of the truth, and will assure our heart before Him ²⁰ in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart and knows all things. ²¹ Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; Confidence at the Bema!

POINT: When in Doubt: Use your Bible as a truth microscope of your heart!
Heb. 4:12 *For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

NEXT VERSE IF OUR HEART IS RIGHT WITH THE RIGHT MOTIVE...

²² *and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.*

POINT: OBEDIENCE TO GOD IS THE KEY TO HIS continual BLESSING and confidence before Jesus at His return!!!!

REMEMBER the Lord's prayer so we “do things pleasing to God”

Matt. 6:9 “Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ ‘Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ ‘Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² ‘And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ ‘And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.] ¹⁴ “For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ “But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

POINT H to H? A Lack of forgiveness of others is the same as a LACK OF LOVE FOR OTHERS!...This doesn't mean giving others the right to harm you again, but is the key to KOINONIA or AGAPE commanded by Jesus!

LAST 2 VERSES

1John 3:23 *This is His **commandment**, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.* ²⁴ The one who keeps His **commandments** **abides** in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He **abides** in us, by the **Spirit** whom He has given us.

The Holy Spirit in us is proof that God has caused us to be Born Again or Born of God!.....Reminder: TO BE BORN AGAIN SPIRITUALLY CAN ONLY BE OF GOD, IT IS THE KEY TO SALVATION, THAT CAN ONLY BE ACCOMPLISHED BY GOD HIMSELF...Faith alone, Christ alone, Grace alone

GETTING SAVED TO ETERNAL LIFE IS 100% A WORK OF GOD AND "ONLY" John TEACHES us the STORY OF NICODEMUS! *Worth reviewing in closing...*

John 3:1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; ² this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of **water** and the **Spirit** he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶ "That which is born of the **flesh** is flesh, and that which is born of the **Spirit** is **spirit**. ⁷ "Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ "The **wind** blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the **Spirit**." ⁹ Nicodemus said to Him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and do not understand these things? ¹¹ "Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know and testify of what we have seen, and you do not accept our testimony. ¹² "If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how

will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ “No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man. ¹⁴ “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; ¹⁵ so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.