

## **Love One Another**

**By Duane A. Linn**

**Joh 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.**

**Joh 15:12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you**

There are many who say that it isn't right to judge another. If done hypocritically, then yes; you shouldn't judge another if you're doing the same thing that you judge another for. But this does not apply to the Christian.

The true Christian works diligently; night and day to remove the plank, log, or beam from his/her own eye because they hate sin (especially their own). When you see a brother committing sin, it is right to warn him against it. This is judging righteously. This is right Judgement. This is love. To keep your brother (or sister) from danger. You would want someone to warn you if you were sinning, wouldn't you?

This is proper love. It is not love to ignore the sin in others. It is hate. Warning your brethren to stop sinning is a good thing. It shows that you love them enough to warn them even if it angers them. To say, "I don't judge anyone" is the worst kind of hate. It is worse than blank hatred; it is indifference. Ezekiel 3 states thus:

***Eze 3:17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.***

***Eze 3:18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.***

For if you don't judge others by the fruit they produce, you are certain to ignore your own sins; which is often fatal. First, judge yourselves righteously to make certain that you're working out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

***Philippians 2:12 "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."***

***2 Peter 1:10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:***

Why is this done with trembling? Because you're looking into yourself for error and fault. It is enough to frighten a person more than anything to admit wrong doing. That air of moral superiority takes a real hit when you find yourself guilty. It's enough to make you tremble (if your conscience isn't already seared with a hot iron and thereby not capable of having a conscience). Therefore, judge rightly and you will be far less susceptible to the whisperings of the Devil and his legions. First with yourself to clear the eyes and second to look after your brother or sister.

This is what is meant when the Lord Jesus Christ says to "love one another as I have loved you". The Lord Jesus never overlooked the sins of His disciples; he warned them out of love.

We also know that this commandment is equal to the second Great Commandment yet different in its application.

This commandment to "love your neighbor as yourself" is akin to this statement, "to do unto others as you would have them to do unto you". ***Mt 7:12 ¶ Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.***

Yet this commandment to Love One Another has a special difference; it is given to those who are Christians; the Elect of God.

***Joh 17:9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.***

***Lu 22:32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren***

***Joh 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.***

Nowhere in the New Testament is the Lord Jesus Christ found to be expressing His profound love to those who were not given to Him.

Some may point out the verse below, as an excuse to reject this teaching of Christ's Love only being given to those who are given Him of God;

***Mr 10:21 Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.***

But what happens afterward?

***Mr 10:22 And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.***

***Mr 10:23 And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!***

There is zero evidence that this rich man repented and returned to Christ. So don't lie to yourselves that he did return and repent.

The point, brethren, is this; if you are a Christian, if you really love the Lord Jesus Christ; you will keep His Commandments (John 14:15).

This is what it means to "love one another as I have loved you".

That's all for today.

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