

## LOVING ONE ANOTHER

--1 JOHN 3:11-24--

### INTRODUCTION:

This morning I am going to start a three-part series, this morning's message will set the tone for the next two messages that will look at God's plan for giving. The third message will also introduce a new opportunity to give. It is out of love for you that the board has asked me to do this series, actually they asked me to do one message on it, but I really felt that it merited three so that I could really teach you what God's Word says.

This morning's message is about loving one another, something that we do well, but that I believe we can even do better. In the passage that we will be looking at this morning, the apostle John is showing us how we might know that we are God's children and that we have been forgiven and justified before God the Father by our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. John tells us that love for one another is an outward sign that we have received salvation.

### I. THE MESSAGE FROM THE BEGINNING (1 John 3:11-15)

- a. John begins by reminding us that the message he is about to impart to us is the \_\_\_\_\_ message that has been proclaimed from the beginning.
- b. This message emphasizes the characteristic of \_\_\_\_\_ displayed by those who have put their faith in Christ for salvation and who now have a new nature. (John 3:16; 10:14-17; 13:34-35)
- c. John in 1 John 3:12 goes on to give us an example of what love is not; the opposite of love is \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. John goes on to tell his readers to not be surprised if the \_\_\_\_\_ hates them.
- e. John then explains that the one who hates his brother is a \_\_\_\_\_.

### II. WHAT IS LOVE? (1 John 3:16-18)

- a. Having gone through those verses we understand what love is not, so now John introduces the \_\_\_\_\_ of love.
- b. This phrase, "*He laid down His \_\_\_\_\_*..." is a phrase that is unique to John. (John 10:14-17; 15:13)
- c. John says that we have seen what true love is and we, as God's children, ought to be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ down our lives for the brethren.
- d. John writes that this true love can be shown by meeting the \_\_\_\_\_ of others.
- e. John addresses his readers as his little children, and he writes, "*Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in \_\_\_\_\_ and truth.*" (1 John 3:18, NASB95) (James 2:15-16)

### III. ASSURANCE (1 John 3:19-24)

- a. John wraps up this passage by giving three \_\_\_\_\_ for the Christian that loves in deed and truth.
- b. He begins by telling us that a lifestyle of \_\_\_\_\_ in action is the undeniable proof of salvation.
- c. John writes that the first benefit of this type of lifestyle is the \_\_\_\_\_ of salvation since love in action is the test of the Christian's profession of faith. (John 13:34-35; 1 John 4:7)
- d. Next John writes that whenever our hearts condemn us, God is \_\_\_\_\_. (2 Timothy 2:19)
- e. Love \_\_\_\_\_ self-condemnation.
- f. In the final two verses John repeats the three features of his letter: believing, \_\_\_\_\_, and obeying.

### CONCLUSION:

John gives us a test to prove that we are truly children of God and to pass the test we must love one another with the same love in which God loved us which He demonstrated for us when He laid down His life for us, so that we could have our sins forgiven, so that we could be reconciled to God, and be justified before Him. John says that when we display this love in our life in deeds and truth it is undisputable proof that we are God's children by our faith in Christ.