

THE CHRISTIAN'S LOVE LIFE

Introduction--Xnty greatest love affair. We know of God's love and how we should love Him. Want to speak of the issues of our love life. Might expect 1 Cor 13. But other love chpts, Rom 13, Jn 13. Spoken in upper room before betrayal to those who would betray Him. Cf vs1-He loved them to uttermost.

time & going thru anything.

I. THE PROOF OF LOVE, 34-35. THE BADGE

"Love one another"

A. Meaning of love. Agapao. Unselfish esteem, Rev 12:11. Bec see grace of God in brother. Divine love Rom 5:5; Gal 5:22.

B. Model of love. Imitating X's love for us. Love that serves, sacrifices, never sways. Chiefly seen in Calvary (bec aorist I have loved shows complete act in view). *1 Pet 2:21 & here only & example word of X. when of X's (Parthous) convicted with suffering. Ph 3:17 or humility 1 Pet 5:3*

C. Motive for love. Prove discipleship and show world X. "Master seen still present with us not by works of power but by love for one another." "See how Xns love one another" was common saying in time of Tertullian.

(After B) Called new commandment bec it is positive and absolute. Love neighbor, Lev 19:18, interpreted by Hillel "That which is hateful to thee thou shalt not do to they neighbor"). Negative and relative.

Jerome says of John's old age--Often carried into assembly at Eph and constantly repeated "Little children, love one another". Asked why. "Because it is the Lord's commandment; and if it only be fulfilled it is enuf." *Label on com.*

esp 5,14

II. THE PRACTICE OF LOVE, 2-17. THE BASIN

A. Meaning. Not salvation, 10. Not service, 9- of Ex 30:19--OT washed hands and feet. But walk. If walk OK so will be service. Coming from Mich beach. Wash on grass but needed another inside.

But sat & heaven dependent

Nec for fellowship, § no part = no fellowship.

B. Manner. 15--as X did. 2 ideas--^{gentle} gently. Could have used scalding water and rough towel but didn't. Even knowing they would betray. Gal 6:1. Completely. That's the meaning of the towel. Water is Word but suppose water not wiped off. Dirtier than before. So some people can apply the Word and point out sins but can't use towel and restore, Gal 6:1 Set bones. Supply army.

*We've become spiritual individuals.
Jn 4:9 is there.*

C. Motive. Bec love brother and want to see him glorify God. That's the real meaning of love.

*I come bec. I want to see God glorified in your life
I wonder if you've considered this.
I'll help you
or your silent testimony.*

III. THE PRIVILEGE OF LOVE, 23. THE BOSOM

Don't allegorize too much yet this is a lovely picture of real spiritual truths. Bosom is place of:

A. Communion. Can't be nearer. Jn 1: 18; Lk 16:22-23. Means enjoying all that is His. Sharing.

B. Conversation (bec of communion). Jn learned what he wanted to know. So us if in communion.

C. Contentment. No matter what comes we are content bec we've learned that it comes from His bosom. Jn learned above all that X loved him and that brings contentment in all circumstances.

D. Prerequisite to all this is that it must be a place of committal. Leaning of Jesus' bosom. Story of little boy sick. Preacher just said "lean on Jesus like you're lying on pillow. Later father went in and asked if trusting Jesus. Reply "Soft pillow."

On Jesus alone, not talent, circumstance, wife + Jesus

Concl. How's your love life?

Proof of love---to world---badge.

Practice of love---to Xns---basin.

Privilege of love--to X---bosom.

Flourishing or flourishing

Jesus Lover of My Soul