



**Series: 1 John**

**Lesson: 10. Loving the Brethren**

**Passage: 1 John 3:11–18**

**STRONGLY Recommended Reading: 1 John (weekly) & Gospel of John  
(at least once during our study)**

- **The World's \_\_\_\_\_ . (vv11–13)**
  - Loving one another is a fundamental principle God has always had for His people (cf. Lev. 19:18b).
  
  - 'One another' in epistles refers primarily to the \_\_\_\_\_.
  
  - John is continuing to contrast the children of God and the children of the devil.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ is the exemplar of a child of the devil.

*John 8:44 – “You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”*

- \_\_\_\_\_ is the exemplar of a child of God.

*John 13:1 – Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.*

- The principles being demonstrated:
  - Children of God love other children of God.
  - Children of the devil hate children of God.
- Don't be ' \_\_\_\_\_ ' by the world's hate for us.
  - θαυμάζω [*thaumazō*] –
  - We should expect it because it's the natural response of the world (cf. John 15:18–21).
  - This gives us another reason not to 'love the world' (cf. 1 John 2:15).
- **The \_\_\_\_\_ of Love. (vv14–15)**
  - Loving the brethren is how we *know*; it's not teaching salvation by works!

- We have the same starting place as unbelievers—\_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Eph. 2:1).
- Those who hate their brothers are \_\_\_\_\_.

*Matt. 5:21–22 – “You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not commit murder’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’<sup>22</sup> But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.”*

- **What \_\_\_\_\_ Love Looks Like. (vv16–18)**

- Christ is the ultimate example of love because He loved to the point of \_\_\_\_\_.

*John 15:13 – “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”*

- The Greek actually says that we ‘\_\_\_\_\_’ it to lay down our lives for the brethren.

- The love of God should stir our \_\_\_\_\_ to push us to respond to brethren in need.
- Love that doesn't produce \_\_\_\_\_ isn't real love (cf. Ja. 1:22)!

### **What Do We Do with These Truths?**

1. Don't be \_\_\_\_\_ about the world.

2. Check your heart toward \_\_\_\_\_.

*John 15:19 – “If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.”*

*Matt. 12:50 – For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother.”*

3. Love in \_\_\_\_\_, not just words.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. What are some of the dangers of forgetting that the world hates the children of God?
2. What are some healthy, balanced ways prioritizing the love of the brethren should look like in your life?
3. How can you cultivate genuine love for God's people? How can you translate that love into action?
4. How is God leading you to show love to brothers and/or sisters in Christ right now?

**Blanks:** Hatred, brethren, Cain, Christ, surprised, Necessity, death, murderers, Real, death, owe, emotions, action, naïve, Christians, deeds