

NEW LOVE FOR LIFE — 1 JOHN 2:7-11

LOVE AS AN OLD COMMANDMENT (2:7)



☞ Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning (1Jn.2:7)

- John is not writing something they never heard before.
- This command to love has been around since the beginning with Israel (Du.6:5-6; Lv.19:18)
- We are commanded to love the Lord our God (Du.6:5-6)
- We are commanded to love our neighbor as ourselves (Lv.19:18)

LOVE AS A NEW COMMANDMENT (2:8)



☞ Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining (1Jn.2:8)

- I'm giving you something new (fresh). It is not new in time but in quality.
- The newness of it is true "in Him." There is a level of love never able to be understood until it was personified in Jesus Christ.
- We never can find that perfect love toward others until we see it in Jesus.
- That newness which was first manifested by Christ, can now be manifest through us by the Holy Spirit.
- There is a freshness to this love because it's now manifest "in you." The "new commandment" is that we love one another.
- Whatever the relationship of the Holy Spirit to believers in the past was, it was a "with" and whatever it is to us, it's an "in."
- When the Holy Spirit comes "in you," you'll be all wrapped up in loving one another.
- Because Messiah came and inaugurated that age, and is delivering us out of this present evil age, we are given this new capacity to love.

LOVE AS A WAY OF LIFE (2:9-11)



☞ ⁹He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now. ¹⁰He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. ¹¹But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes. (1Jn.2:9-11)

- If you hate, you're not in this kingdom.
- Love is not going to be perfect in your life, but it will be the direction of it.
- If no change has happened, then there has been no work of God in the heart.
- There is a new commandment to love, added to an old commandment to love, and then he talks about the life of love.