

Series: Vanlentine Banquet

LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER

JN. 13:1; 1 JN. 4:7-12; JN. 15:9-17

Text: John 13:1

John 13:1

¹ *Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.*

Introduction:

Someone has asked “What is love” and then gave the following answer:

- It is silence--when your words would hurt.
- It is patience--when your neighbor's curt.
- It is deafness--when a scandal flows.
- It is thoughtfulness--for other's woes.
- It is promptness--when stern duty calls.

It is courage--when misfortune falls.

It has been well said that love is better demonstrated than defined. It is easier to express love than explain love.

Note:

We read in John 15:

John 15:9-17

⁹ *As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.* ¹⁰ *If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.* ¹¹ *These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.* ¹² *This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.* ¹³ *Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.* ¹⁴ *Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.* ¹⁵ *Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.* ¹⁶ *Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.* ¹⁷ *These things I command you, that ye love one another.*

And in 1 John 4:

1 John 4:7-12

⁷ *Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.* ⁸ *He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.* ⁹ *In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.* ¹⁰ *Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

¹¹ *Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.* ¹² *No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.*

Note just a few things from these verses as we consider this thought the Example of Love We Are to Emulate In Our Lives

We have in these verses an:

1. THE EDICT OR DIRECTIVE

1 John 4:7

⁷ ***Beloved, let us love one another:*** *for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.*

John 13:34-35

³⁴ A new commandment I give unto you, **That ye love one another**; as I have loved you, **that ye also love one another**. ³⁵ By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

John 15:17

¹⁷ These things I command you, **that ye love one another**.

Note:

- Person Issuing the Edict – The Lord
- Purpose Behind the Edict – “Shall All Men Know That Ye Are My Disciples”

Note not only “The Edict or Directive” but also:

2. THE EXAMPLE OR DEMONSTRATION

John 15:13

¹³ Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

1 John 4:9

⁹ In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

Note:

His Death Was Voluntary

John 10:11-18

¹¹ I am the good shepherd: **the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.** ¹² But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.

¹³ The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. ¹⁵ As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and **I lay down my life for the sheep.** ¹⁶ And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. ¹⁷ Therefore doth my Father love me, because **I lay down my life**, that I might take it again. ¹⁸ **No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself.** I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Not only was His death “Voluntary”

B. His Death Was Vicious

You ask why his death was so vicious. Be sin is vicious.

Note:

Isaiah 52:14

¹⁴ *As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:*

Isaiah 53:1-12

¹ *Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?* ² *For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.* ³ *He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.* ⁴ *Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.* ⁵ *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.* ⁶ *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.* ⁷ *He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.* ⁸ *He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the*

living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. ⁹ And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. ¹⁰ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. ¹¹ He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Not only was His death “Voluntary and Vicious” but also:

C. His Death Was Victorious

- He Paid Sins Debt in Full

John 19:30

³⁰ *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **It is finished**: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.*

- He Rose From the Grave Three Days Later

Acts 2:23-24

²³ *Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: ²⁴ Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.*

Romans 4:25

²⁵ *Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.*

- He's Coming Back Some Day

Hebrews 9:27-28

²⁷ *And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: ²⁸ So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.*

Note not only “The Edict or Directive” and “The Example or Demonstration but note lastly:

3. THE EXECUTION OR DISCHARGE OF THE EDICT OR DIRECTIVE

How is it possible to love one another as we should?

Note:

A. Love Is the Outcome of a Personal Relationship with God

1 John 4:7

⁷ *Beloved, let us love one another: **for love is of God;** and **every one that loveth is born of God,** and knoweth God.*

Not only is love the “Outcome of a Personal Relationship with God” but also:

B. Love Is the Outgrowth of a Progressive Relationship With God

Love is not only something that is derived from God, but also something developed in us by God.

1 John 4:7

⁷ *Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is **born of God,** and **knoweth God.***

The word “knoweth” speaks of being acquainted with God. It describes a knowledge of God that comes by experience.

This is a knowledge that comes from experiencing God in our life.

I have always been struck by the statement of Job in Job 42:5:

Job 42:5

⁵ I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee.

Job had heard of God that hearing brought certain knowledge about God.

But through all Job encountered and experience he had seen God.

Or to put it another way, all he had heard about God became a living reality in his life.

Not only is love the “Outcome of a Personal and Progressive Relationship with God” but also:

C. Love Is the Outflow of a Proven Relationship with God

1 John 4:7

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

- The Presence of Love Shows

It shows that one has experienced new life in Christ and that they are growing in that new life.

- The Absence of Love States

Note two things that the absence of love reveals:

1 John 4:8

⁸ He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

John is very straightforward.

He declares in verse 8, “He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”

First: If a person can’t love it is could be evidence of no relationship.

A heart empty of love is evidence of a heart empty of God.

Secondly: if a person isn’t manifesting the love that has been given to them by God, it reveals a lack of spiritual growth in their life.

As we grow in the Lord, we grow in love and how to love.

The absence of love in practice is the evidence that we are not expanding in our knowledge of God.

Close:

Remember:

- God's Love is Unmerited
- God's Love is Unchanging
- God's Love is Universal

The degree of our devotion will determine the depth of our love.

The depth of our love will determine our degree of loyalty.

The object of our love will determine the outcome of our obedience.

The song writer penned these words.

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Now we won't be singing with a crown on our brow for
the crowns will be laid at our Saviour's feet, but we can
love because he first loved us.

1 John 4:19

¹⁹ *We love him, because he first loved us.*

May those around us know that we are one of His
disciples because of our love one to another.