

Brotherly Love

Introduction:

- A. Text: 1 John 2:9-11 – We consider the subject of brotherly love as presented in 1 John.
- B. We shall consider:
 - 1. The reasons for brotherly love.
 - 2. The requirements of brotherly love.

I. The Reasons For Brotherly Love.

- A. **It is Necessary To Loving God.**
 - 1. 4:19-21 – We cannot love God without first loving our brethren.
 - 2. Jn.15:12 – Jesus commanded to love one another.
 - 3. 11 Jn.5.
 - 4. cf.Jn.13:34,35 – Jesus said to love our brethren so all men would know we are His disciples.
 - 5. To truly love God, and for the world to see such, we must love our brethren.
- B. **Because God First Loved Us.**
 - 1. 4:19 – *“We love, because he first loved us.”*
 - 2. cf.4:9,10 – God’s love for us is seen in His giving us His Son.
 - 3. 4:11 – Because God love us so much, *“we also ought to love one another.”*
- C. **Because we are Brethren With The Same Father.**
 - 1. 5:1,2 – We see brotherly love on the basis of a common spiritual Father.
 - 2. cf.5:1 – We are all born of God through faith – cf.Gal.3:26,27.
 - 3. cf.1 Jn.4:7,8 – *“...every one that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God.”*
- D. **To Have Fellowship With God and Have Cleansing From Our Sins.**
 - 1. 1:6,7 – Fellowship with God and cleansing from our sins is found only in the light.
 - 2. 2:9 – We are not in the light unless we love our brethren.
- E. **To Have Light To See By.**
 - 1. 2:10,11 – *“...he that hateth his brother is in the darkness, and walketh in the darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because the darkness hath blinded his eyes.”*
 - 2. Man must depend upon the light for spiritual guidance – cf.Jer.10:23; Jn.8:12; 12:35,36a.
 - 3. We must have brotherly love to see to walk the straight and narrow way that leads to life eternal.
- F. **To Have Eternal Life.**
 - 1. 3:14,15 – *“We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.”*
 - 2. To receive the promise of life eternal (cf.2:25), we must, for one, love our brethren.
- G. These are the reasons John gives for us to love one another.

II. The Requirements Of Brotherly Love.

- A. **Compassion.**
 - 1. 3:17 – *“...whoso hath the world’s goods, and beholdeth his brother in need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how doth the love of God abide in him?”*
 - 2. Compassion illustrated by the parable of the Good Samaritan – Lk.10:30-37.
 - 3. If we truly love our brethren we will show compassion on them when they are distressed.
- B. **Action.**
 - 1. 3:18 – *“My little children, let us not love in word, neither with the tongue; but in deed and truth.”*
 - 2. Unfeigned (Sincere) action.
 - a. 1 Pet.1:22 – Obeyed the gospel to a sincere love of the brethren.
 - 3. This is expected of the man who has the ability – cf.3:17.

C. A Sacrificial Love.

1. 3:16 – *“...and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”*
2. Just as Jesus was willing to die for us, we should be willing to die for our brethren.

D. Pray For Them.

1. 5:16 – *“If any man see his brother sinning a sin not unto death, he shall ask, and God will give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: not concerning this do I say that he should make request.”*
2. Surely if we love our brethren, we will be deeply concerned for their spiritual condition.
3. If they have sinned, they are lost – cf. Js.5:19,20.
4. *Talking to men for God is a great thing, but talking to God for men is greater still* – E.M. Bounds
5. Brotherly love will cause us to pray that they will come to their senses and make things right with God.

Conclusion:

- A. Are you still abiding in the darkness?
- B. If so, why not leave the darkness this morning and enter into the marvelous light.