

i John Series

Lesson #023

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

1 John 2:7, “Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard.

1 John 2:8, “On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.”

1 John 2:9, “The one who says he is in the light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now.

1 John 2:10, “The one who loves his brother abides in the light and there is no cause for stumbling in him.”

1 John 2:11, “But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes.”

a. Love: [working definition] A mental attitude which desires the best for its object.

b. Love is notoriously difficult to define.

c. Webster's Third International Dictionary:

- 1. the attraction, desire, or affection felt for a person who arouses delight or admiration or elicits tenderness, sympathetic interest, or benevolence: devoted affection.**
- 2. warm attachment, enthusiasm, or devotion.**
- 3. the benevolence attributed to God resembling a father's affection for his children.**

d. Two categories or expressions of divine love manifest themselves:

God's PERSONAL LOVE:

God's IMPERSONAL LOVE:

e. It is this love which is the pattern, model, archetype, prototype of the new commandment. We are to love one another as Christ loved us.

John 13:34, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

John 13:35, “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Impersonal Love is impossible but God doesn't mandate the impossible without providing the means of accomplishment.

Impersonal Love is the hallmark of the believer.

Impersonal Love is the basis for problem solving in human relations. Human relationships will never be what they can be and will always have an element of instability and tenuousness without Impersonal Love.

Impersonal Love is the ability to accept all people as they are, warts and all. It is the absence of mental attitude sins, the absence of prejudice, and the presence of a genuine concern, regard, and solicitousness for even those who may be treating us the worst.

Impersonal Love will have no stability or strength without grace orientation and doctrinal orientation.

Impersonal Love develops the capacity for life, love, happiness.

Lev. 19:18, “You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.”

Gal. 5:14, “For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

James 2:8, “If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law, according to the Scripture, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself,’ you are doing well.”

Lev. 19:18

John 13:34–35

**To Israel:
believer and unbel.**

**To Church:
believer ONLY**

LOVE

LOVE

Your neighbor

One another

As yourself

As Christ loved you

1. It is objective with an objective model.

2. It is not the symbol of the cross or some other religious symbol.

**3. It is not emotion, not
sentimentality, not some feeling.**

4. It is based on character, character developed from walking by the Holy Spirit and based on the example of God's love for fallen, rebellious mankind.

5. It challenges unbelievers.

6. V. 35 presupposes that the world knows this; presupposes that this is inherent.

7. This is the greatest apologetic for our faith.

8. This challenges the arrogant doctrinal believer who thinks that Christianity is summarized by what you know.

John 15:12, “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.

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

John 15:14, “You are My friends, if you do what I command you.”

John 15:15, “No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.

John 15:16, “You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you.”

John 15:17, “This I command you, that you love one another.”

Initiating

Aggressive

Humble

Intense

Steadfast loyalty

Consecration

Dedication

Devotion