

The Letters of John

Sunday, November 13, 2016

1 John 2:3-11

Introduction

John now begins a new section with an encouragement on assurance for true believers - that you can know God by obeying his commands.

“Christians that know Christ will keep his commands and walk as He walked.”

I. “By This We Know”

a) “By this we know...that we have come to know him...if we keep his commandments.

“to know him” – it speaks of a personal knowing.

‘commandments’ – What are these commandments.

John 14:15 – *“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”*

v.4 – *“Whoever says...”* – this is those who have left the fellowship...

“is a liar and the truth is not in him” – underlines the fact that he is a liar and he has no relationship with God.

v.5a – *“in him truly the love of God is perfected.”*

John is saying that our love for God completes its work when we obey His command to love one another.

b) By this we may know...that we are in him...to walk in the same way in which he walked.

“in him” – This is a great and powerful phrase!

John 15:4,5 – *“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”*

‘walk’ - simply a metaphor for our daily conduct; the way we live!

“Walking in the light is not only characterized by the absence of sin but equally importantly by the presence of love.” D. Jackman

How did Jesus walk? He obeyed His Father!

John 6:38 – *“For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent me.”*

John 8:29 – *“And He who sent me is with me; He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him.”*

John 14:31 – *“but I do as the Father commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.”*

II. Conclusion

Let us be like Jesus and love one another and love our enemies! If we will live like this, we will display to the world what really is TRUE love!