

WHAT MANNER OF LOVE (2) 1 Jn 3.1-2

Recapping from last week we're discussing this incredible love from another country.
And how John meshes it with the first half of 1 Jn when he discussed the righteousness of light.

So in our walk we have the: clear, transparent, permeating, penetrating light of the gospel which exposes our sin; brings direction; heals...
and we have a deep, profound, free love from another world that draws us into his kingdom, saves us and keeps us forever.

Allow me to also recap another thought from last week.

I had mentioned that the church (this church, any church) is not a place for you to find friends etc. So what is this place, the church?

Paul gives us the foundation of why we are here.

And he gave under the church apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers:

-For the perfecting of the saints AND for the work of the ministry.

That's why you are here! To be perfected by the Holy Spirit through the Word, to bring you to your next level of maturity.

To "perfect" does not mean that you become flawless, it means that you are being matured until you come to the full stature of who a believer is.
And you are being trained for the work of the ministry!

The goal of the HS in any group of believers is:

- For all of us to grow in maturity to the next level of ministry,
- To understand and use our gifts with each other but definitely with the world.

NOW (however)...A byproduct of all of this is:

- You will have deeper relationships here than in any other place in your life.
- You will find friends that will stick close to you.
- You will find people that will love you unconditionally.
- You will find people that will help you on your journey.
- You will find bros & sis that will give to you, help y find a job, etc.

And one more thought.

People often say: "There's just a bunch of cliques in that church!" Absolutely! There almost has to be cliques in a church!

I don't think too many 20-year-olds want to sit around the campfire w/ a bunch of 70-year-olds...

I don't believe that a young man should be part of a small group of young mothers.

I don't believe a young woman should be part of a men's group.

So there will be cliques! Gather into groups where we have commonality, shared interests. But should...

a 20-year-old occasionally...70-year-olds to learn a little bit about history and life? YES.

a 70-year-olds sit and listen to a 20-year-old and learn about today's world? YES.

each differing group reach out to bless others and EACH other?

But the goal of that is to learn how to more effectively love one another and reach the world, *and you will be blessed in return.*

As we delve further into these verses, remember, are talking about God's love *to us*.

Origin, Object of Love.

This love from another country comes to us from an incomprehensibly loving Father;

The vessel of His love is Jesus, an incomprehensibly obedient servant.

It is a love that saves us, sustains us, delivers us, keeps us and will eternally bless us. Three words...*Love never fails.*

FREENESS

Freely you have received

And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits,
to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: Preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'

Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. (Reverse next sentences)

Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, nor bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs;

Freely you have received, freely give. (Matt 10)

Given us all things richly

Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God,

who gives us richly all things to enjoy. (1 Tim 6)

And how about the end of ROMANS 8 from last week?

Will He not FREELY give us all things?

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God...

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Moreover whom He predestined == called; justified; and whom He justified, glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all,
how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

1 Corinthians 2:9-12 NKJV

But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard...

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God,

that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

What do you need this morning?

ACHIEVEMENT

Children of God *once for all!*

Again, to grammar... (ἱνα), aorist... Now and *once for all* we are the sons of God!

AMP: NOW, we are named and called and counted the children of God! And so we are! Beloved, we are [even here and now] the children of God

I AM betrothed... The wedding date has been set...

I AM called with an upward call; circumstances do not change my calling;

I AM now in my Father's vineyard...it is growing...consuming the earth...

Now all I need to do is keep my oil lamp FILLED and wick trimmed!

Now all I need to do is PRESS toward the prize

Now all I need to do is be a faithful laborer

FINAL INTENTION

Full and utter glory!

Make NO mistake!

NOW we are His sons and daughters.

I will NOT be more saved than I am right now

I will not be more of a son than I am right now

BUT someday my body will catch up to where my spirit already is!

And when it does, death will be swallowed up in victory!