

# “What the world needs now ...”

I John 2:7-11 (NLT)  
June 7, 2020 @ 9:15/10:30 AM  
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## Review

I John 1:4 We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.

Because of Jesus every sin can be forgiven!  
Because of Jesus eternal life can be received!  
Because of Jesus every life can be changed!

## Introduction

1. John, the “son of thunder” and “the one whom Jesus loved”
2. John’s warnings are given to confirm our faith not to confuse it.

II Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith.

## Today’s Text

I John 2:7 **Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment for you; rather it is an old one you have had from the very beginning. This old commandment—to love one another—is the same message you heard before. <sup>8</sup> Yet it is also new. Jesus lived the truth of this commandment, and you also are living it. For the darkness is disappearing, and the true light is already shining.**

**<sup>9</sup> If anyone claims, “I am living in the light,” but hates a fellow believer, that person is still living in darkness. <sup>10</sup> Anyone who loves a fellow believer is living in the light and does not cause others to stumble. <sup>11</sup> But anyone who hates a fellow believer is still living and walking in darkness. Such a person does not know the way to go, having been blinded by the darkness.**

1. A review of the “old commandment”.

Matthew 22:34 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. <sup>35</sup> One of them, an expert in

religious law, tried to trap him with this question: <sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”

<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

## 2. A remembrance of the “new commandment”.

John 13:34 So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. <sup>35</sup> Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”

## 3. A reprimand for the one who harbors hate in his heart.

I Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. <sup>6</sup> It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out. <sup>7</sup> Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance.

- A. They have something I deserve!
- B. They have injured me and I won't forget it!
- C. They deserve to suffer for this offence and I will rejoice when it happens!

## Conclusion

Measure not God's love and favour by your own feeling. The sun shines as clearly in the darkest day as it does in the brightest. The difference is not in the sun, but in some clouds which hinder the manifestation of the light thereof. (Richard Sibbes)

Romans 5:8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.

Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy. (Thomas Merton)

I Peter 4:8 Most important of all, continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins.