

FIRST JOHN STUDY

CHAPTER 3:16-18

TAPE NUMBER WN-280– DECEMBER 15 ,1999

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Knowing Real Love”

THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 John 1:3

“that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”

TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Love

I John 3:16-18

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸ My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

**If in Verses 9-15
we have The Proof of the Divine Birth**

We've Been **Born** of God, Having the **Love** of God, We're Living the **Life** of God

**Then In verses 16-18
We have The Definition of the Divine Birth**

... and that is the real love of God

1.) We're to Live a Redemptive Love

vv. 16

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

1a.) We Know What is the Truth

Verse 16

By this we **know** love,

And It Is To Know The Love of God



know

GRK

this is an experiential knowledge. a working, visual knowledge

**The Love of God
for Young & Old Alike**

1b.) We Have an Example of the Truth

Verse 16

because He **laid** down His life for us.

It's a Love That Gives

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world
that He gave His only begotten Son..."

1c.) We Know What to do With the Truth

Verse 16

And we **also** ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

Not Only are We to Lay Down Our Lives, But We Are To Be Eagerly Ready to Do So

Because He Indwells the Believer
The Laying Down of Our Lives is a Supernatural – Natural
Action

It's What Believers Do

Galatians 2:20-21

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. ²¹ "I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."

Our Example to Stuttgart was Love

2 Corinthians 5:11a

Knowing, therefore, the awesomeness of the Lord, we **persuade** men;
but we are well known to God,

Jesus' Life Sacrifice was Forever, Then and Now

Hebrews 10:10

By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ
once for all.

2.) Selfishness is Offensive to Christ

vv. 17

But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts
up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

2a.) Riches are Tools in the Hand of God

Verse 17

But whoever has this world's goods,

Interesting Enough Jesus Never Owned Anything of this World to Give Away

Matthew 8:19-20

Then a certain scribe came and said to Him, "Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go." ²⁰ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

Matthew 17:25b-27

..."What do you think, Simon Peter? From whom do the kings of the earth take customs or taxes, from their sons or from strangers?" ²⁶ Peter said to Him, "From strangers." Jesus said to him, "Then the sons are free. ²⁷ Nevertheless, lest we offend them, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you will find a piece of money; take that and give it to them for Me and you."

The Context Is...

if there are other around us less blessed as we are,
then we are to bless them without any delay

Thus He Had Given His Life as a Gift

2b.) Indifference can Rob the Richest Man

Verse 17

and **sees** his brother in need,
and **shuts up** his heart from him,



sees

GRK

observes, looks upon



shuts up

GRK

closes the eyes, turns away

Luke 16:19-31

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. ²⁰ At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores ²¹ and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²² "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.' ²⁵ "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.' ²⁷ "He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my father's house, ²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.' ²⁹ "Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.' ³⁰ "No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' ³¹ "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Whenever We Have the Power to Better
someone's life and choose not to – we sin!!!

Because It's Ill Stewardship

Luke 10:30-34

Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. ³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

2c.) Generosity is a Spiritual Indicator

Verse 17

how does the love of God **abide** in him?



Abide

GRK

continuously, day by day, continue on

The Answer in the Greek is;
Impossible!

Not Sharing What God Has Give You - Is
Inexcusable

To Think That It 's All Yours
Is To Rob God...

Malachi 3:8

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings.

3.) The Truth of God Cannot Sit Idle

vv. 18

My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue,
but in deed and in truth.

3a.) His Truth Abides in Us

Verse 18

My little children,
(These that are mine will be loving)

Which would you prefer?

Sweetheart, let me tell you just how much I love you,
but never sending her flowers speaks louder...

3b.) His Truth is not just Conceptual

Verse 18

let us not love in **word** or in **tongue**,
but in **deed** and in **truth**.

John 15:13

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down
one's life for his friends.



Word

GRK logos

it's the communication or information about love

It's the **Theoretical** Side of Love



Tongue

GRK glossa

to speaking of, the telling of



Deed

GRK 2041 ergon (er'-gon)

to work – to toil, occupation of love



Truth

GRK 225 aletheia (al-ay'-thi-a);

verity. reality, when what is said and what is done becomes one
act

How Am I To Love You?

There's the **Theoretical** Side of Love
Then there's the **Practical** Side of Love

Isaiah 1:16b-17a NIV

Take your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing wrong,
and learn to do right!

Who is The One That's in Need Around Me?

What do I have That Can Ease That Need?

Where do I Go To Ease That Need?

3c.) It's Time to Go Home!

DECISIONS & PRAYER TIME

Matthew 5:16

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify
your Father in heaven.