**A call to Christian Obedience – Matt. 22:39**

**Focal Truth: Christian’s obey God as they love their neighbor as themselves**

**Observations:**

1. **The priority of loving our neighbor is essential to obedience – 22:37 – “the second command”**
2. **Every believer must individually love their neighbor – 22:37 – “You shall love your neighbor”**
3. **Christian love for neighbor is measured by love for self – 22:37 – “love your neighbor as yourself”**
4. Matt. 7:12 – in everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets
5. **Christian love for neighbor is love for enemy neighbors – 5:43 – 47**
6. 5:44 – love your enemies
7. 5:44 – pray for those who persecute you
8. 5:45 – loving enemies is godliness
9. 5:46 – 47 - there is no reward if you just love those who love you
10. **Christian’s are known for their love for their brother – 1 John 3:10**

By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious, anyone who does not practice

 righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother

1. **The Lord Jesus message to His people is to love one another – 1 John 3:11**

For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another

1. **Assurance of salvation is given to those who love the brethren – 1 John 3:14**

We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death

1. **Christian love for our neighbor is sacrificing our life for the brethren – 1 John 3:16**

We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren

1. **Christian love sees the needs of the brethren and helps them – 1 John 3:17 -18**

But whoever has the world’s goods, and see his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does

 the love of God abide in him? Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth

1. **Christians love one another because they know God – 1 John 4: 7 -8**

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know god, for God is love.

1. **Christians love because they are loved by God – 1 John 4:11**

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another

1. **Christians experience love from God as they love others – 1 John 4:12**

No one has seen God at any time, if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us

1. **Christians are liars about love for others when they hate others – 1 John 4:20**

If someone says, I love God, and hates his brother, he is a liar, for the one who does not love his brother

 whom he has seen, cannot love god whom he has not seen

1. **Christians are commanded by the Lord Jesus that those who love God will also love their brother – 1 John 4:21**

This is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also

1. **Christians had been commanded from the beginning to love one another – 2 John 1:5**

Now I ask you lady, not as though I were writing to you a new commandment, but the one which we have had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning, that you should walk in it.

1. **Christian who love their neighbor fulfill the law of God – Rom.12:8**

Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another, for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.

**Things to Remember**

1. **Love your enemies – 1 Cor. 13**

Love patiently – 1 Cor. 13: 4 -7

 Love kindly

 Love without jealousy

 Love without bragging

 Love without arrogance

 Love without seeking selfish recognition

 Love without being provoked

 Love without taking account when hurt by others

 Love never rejoicing in unrighteousness

 Love rejoicing with the truth

 Love bearing all things

 Love believing all things

 Love hoping all things

 Love enduring all things

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1. **Those who shall one day live together should love together**
2. **God’s people have many things in them that make us love them**
3. **Continue to love the brethren even in hard & difficult times – Heb. 13:1**

**Daily Use**

1. **Ask yourself do I really love my neighbor enemy?**
2. **Ask yourself do I really love my neighbor brother?**
3. **Confess your lack of love for those who you hate**
4. **Ask God to show you His great love for you so that you can show that love to your neighbor**