

LOVE: OUR GOD AND HIS GOSPEL

062120P

INTRODUCTION

1. Sons of Most High [Lk 6:27,35]; peacemakers [Mt 5:9] blessed overcomers
2. How can we learn battle strategy of love? Col 3:1-4. Worship & witness [Ps 44:22; Rm 8:36-37] - conquer *thru Him who loves us*.
3. Before we head onto the battlefield, be fortified in Christ's love.

1st: Love Is From Our God

1. God's love - Dt 7:7-8 Lord set His love - faithful to AbCov.
 - i. v9-10 Love & hate defined as within or outside of covenant love
 - ii. v11-13a keep covenant & He will love you = bless according to covenant promises - Jd 1:21a *keep yourselves in the love of God*
 - iii. OT records Lord's faithfulness.
2. Love enemies with theological love - 1Jn 4:7-11.
 - i. Context: v1-7 discern apostolic gospel & false gospels [*they - we* v5-6] & overcome - v4
 - ii. v7-8 unity of life, knowledge of truth & love: theological realities.
 - iii. v9-10 What is *the love of God*? How *manifested*? *In us*.
 - a. v9: *Love of God = sent Son of God - into world - so that we wld live*.
v10: why? *to be propitiation for our sins*.
 - b. *manifested* - past action: revealed
 - 1) Objective historical event: work of Jesus - Tit 2:11; 3:4
 - 2) Subjective experience: work of Holy Spirit
 - c. *in us*: shown to world but applied *in us*
 - 1) general revelation of God's love in sent Son: apostolic gospel
 - 2) special revelation of God's love *in us* who hear apostles - v6.
Jn writes as witness that we might fellowship w/ God [1:1-3].
 - i) Jesus revealed as *Savior of the world* - who saves us [1T 4:10; 2T 2:10]
 - ii) Preach gospel of *love of God* to all men & God sovereignly saves
3. 1Jn 4:11 - *beloved* - church replicates love among ourselves - Jn 13:34-35
4. Love enemies? Declare & demonstrate gospel love.

2nd: Love is Revealed in God's Gospel

1. Jn 3:16 - God's love for world.
 - i. God so loved - in this manner - an act not "affection" [yet Eph 3:19]
 - ii. *the world - Savior of the world* [1Jn 4:14]: creation now fallen
 - iii. *He sent His only begotten Son into the world* - 1Jn 4:9-11
 - iv. *we believe in Him & have everlasting life* - why? manifested in us.
2. Jn 3:16 - *whoever* - Eph 2:12 *having no hope w/o God in the world* - we were once *in the world*
 - i. What is HS work for us? God's love - Eph 2:1-10. Brought from death to life *b/c of His great love* - now alive, live by faith - good works
 - ii. From what vantage point do we live [Col 3:1-4] - Eph 2:6-7. We have transcendent status authorized to do the business of King Jesus.

3rd: We Love our Enemies When We Declare and Demonstrate God's Gospel

1. The gospel: the announcement of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ coupled w/ summons to believe & repent - Lk 24:46-47.
2. Gospel - all the blessings of NCov salvation: legal & living
 - i. Rm 1:1-6 *the gospel of God* - re: Jesus - *obedience of faith*
 - ii. Rm 15:16 *gospel of God* - v19 *gospel of Christ*; v20 *the gospel*; 16:26 *obedience of faith*. 2 inclusios: *gospel of God & obedience of faith*
 - iii. Rm 1:15-17 - revelation of *righteousness of God* & v18 *wrath of God*
3. Why has this gospel come to us? God is being faithful to AbCov - Gal 3:6-9
 - i. v8-Script preaches gospel [Gn 22:18] Ab promised seed from nations
 - ii. v16 all the promises fulfilled in Ab's seed: Jesus Christ.
4. God's gospel is *the power of God unto salvation* - God saves sinners.
5. Do you know people who *have no hope, w/o God & in the world*? Love them with gospel love. God sent His Son & His Son sends us.