

Ministry of Reconciliation (MOR) Bible Teachings

September 2018

Father, thank you for your great love, that on September 11, 3 BC Tishri 1, your son was born. Father, thank you for loving us and bringing us good tidings of great joy, a savior which is Christ the Lord. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from your love, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The <u>August 2018</u> teaching focused on how God and His son Jesus Christ demonstrated their love for us. We learned how to be experts at demonstrating the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation in the body of Christ! We learned we must renew our minds to what God's Word says love is and do it.

This month's teaching subject is the love (*agapao*) of God in the renewed mind. Love means action! The love of God inspires people to be their best. Love is to do. Love is to act. God's Word is His commandments. If you love God, you keep His commandments. In John 12: 49-50, we read how Jesus Christ loved his Father and took action by following His commandments:

For I [Jesus] have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

And I know that his [God] commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

God, Jesus Christ's Father, gave him His commandment. Jesus Christ always spoke what His Father God told him to say for he demonstrated his love for his Father! God's Word is everlasting. Now Jesus Christ gives a new commandment to his disciples in John 13:34:

A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another; as I [Jesus] have loved you, that you also love one another.

Jesus said this was a new commandment which implied it had not been given in the past. Jesus gave a new way to love – a new way to act in God's Word. Jesus demonstrated that love to his disciples, as an example of God's love. John 13:35:

By this shall all men know that you are my disciples [disciplined one], if ye have love one to another.

How did people know that they were Jesus's disciples? By the way they loved one another. Today, how do people know that we are Jesus Christ disciples? They see our action; we love one to another with the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation. John 14:21 explains:

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

How does Jesus Christ manifest his love for us? I know because Jesus Christ is:

- My advocate (1 John 2:1)
- Propitiation (payment) for my sins (1 John 2:2)
- Sitting at the right hand of God making intercession for the saints (Romans 8:34)

Let's look at John 15:8-13 verse by verse to gain a deeper understanding of how Jesus Christ loved his Father and acted by following His commandments. Verses 8-9:

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so, shall ye be my disciples.

As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue [remain] you in my love.

Jesus Christ followed his Father's example of loving him. He loved us the same way. By our walk, we remain in his love. Verse 10:

If you keep my commandments, you shall [absolute] abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

How do we abide in Jesus Christ love? By keeping his commandments. Verse 11:

These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

Happiness is based on how much you own. Joy is inside. The lesson here is that love is not based on material things. Verse 12:

This is my commandment, that you love one another, as I have loved you.

Jesus Christ commanded that we love one another as he has loved us! Verse 13:

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

When we have the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation, we share our love and knowledge of God's Word with others. We pour out our soul for someone else. We let people see the love of Christ in us! Loving God means we keep His commandments. Rather than acting as if the world commands us, we renew our mind in manifestation and follow the path and guidelines given to us in God's Word.

Let me share one of many records in God's Word where the love of traditions of men were more important than the commandments of God. We will look at the record in Matthew 15:1-9. Verse 1:

Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying. . .

These were the top religions leaders of that time. They were teaching the traditions of the elders to the people. Verse 2:

... Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.

The scribes and Pharisees came to Jesus wanting to know why his disciples didn't wash their hands before they ate bread. They did not come to Jesus and ask him to rightly divide the Word about Moses or the Old Testament prophecies. They were more concerned about the tradition of the elders, washing hands before eating bread, than they were about the Word of God. Verses 3-5:

But he [Jesus] answered and said unto them, why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

For God commanded, saying, honor thy father and mother: and, He that cursed father or mother, let him [be put to death] die the death.

But ye say, whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, it is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightiest be profited by me;

Jesus confronted the scribes and Pharisees about their focus on the traditions rather than the commandments given in the Word. He challenged their teaching that honoring your father and mother should be done only if it profits or benefits them. Verse 6:

And honor not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus, have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

The scribes and Pharisees loved the tradition of elders more than the commandments of God! Jesus told them they had made God's commandment to love your father and

mother null and void (of none effect) because of their focus on tradition versus the commandment's order to love. Verse 7-8:

You hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth and honored me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

The scribes and Pharisees made beautiful speeches with their mouths and honored God with their lips. They taught the people the commandments but their purpose in doing so was not to honor God, but rather to honor their traditions. Jesus knew the scribes and Pharisees were far from God in their hearts, the inner most part of their being. Verse 9:

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines [right believing] the commandments of men.

Were the scribes and Pharisees worshiping God? Yes, but in vain! The lesson that is presented by Jesus is to not spend your whole life worshiping God in vain by acting on a doctrine that focuses on the commandments of men. We know God and act upon His commandments by lining up our hearts, minds, and actions in His Word. How do we know God? Let's look at 1 John 2:3-11, starting with verses 3-4:

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

God's Word tells us we cannot say we know God and at the same time, not keep His commandments. Jesus tells us that people who do that are liars, and the truth is not in them. Verse 5:

But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

On the other hand, when we keep His Word lined up in harmony with our thoughts, our actions, and our heart, the love of God is perfected in us. We know that we are in him because we keep His commandments and walk in them. Verses 6-8:

He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

The true light is Christ in you the hope of glory! We must let our light so shine before men, that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father which is in heaven (Matthew 5:16). Verse 9:

He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

We cannot walk in the light, if we hate our brothers and sisters in the body of Christ. Walking in the light allows others to see we are sons and daughters of God. And walking in the light glorifies God. Verse 10:

He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

We remain in the light if we love our brothers and sisters in the body of Christ. Verse 11:

But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

God's Word used the term "darkness" three times in this verse to make a point. If you hate your brothers and sisters in Christ, you are in darkness! In the darkness, you cannot see, you cannot walk, and you are blind to the path on which you are to walk. In the darkness, you cannot know God's Word, you cannot act on God's Word, and you cannot love according to God's Word. Look at 1 John 3:21-24. We will start with verse 21:

Beloved, if our heart condemns us not, then have we confidence toward God.

Any time we walk out of love, our hearts condemn us. We have confidence toward God when our hearts are not condemning us. With this confidence, we know that God is always there for us. We can be confident that we love and act with the boldness of God. Verse 22:

And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

When we keep our Father's commandments and do those things that are pleasing in his sight, we have whatever we ask of Him according to His Word! Isn't that a blessing? The love of God renews our mind, heart, and walk. Verse 23:

And this is his commandment, that we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

Our Father's commandments are for us to believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another. We go to God's Word and see what it says, then believe it and take action. We dare not listen to what men and women say about God's Word. We must read it for ourselves and make it our own. Verse 24:

And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.

We know when we keep God's commandments we dwell in him and He is in us. Every time we speak in tongues it is our infallible proof that God's spirit is in us! 1 Corinthians 12:3 says, "*and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord* [master], *but by the Holy Ghost* [spirit]." Since we love God and His Word, we know there is one God and He is in us. 1 Corinthians 8:6:

But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.

There is one God, the Father of or by whom are all things. There is one Lord (master) Jesus Christ of or by whom are all things. Because God loved us so much, he took action and reconciled us back to Him by Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:19:

To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Now God was where? In Christ. For what purpose? To reconcile us back to Him. Why? Because God loves us. Colossians 1:27:

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Now where is Christ? In you!

God's Word says it is God in Christ in you, the hope of glory. Each born again believer has God in Christ in them, the hope of glory! You see why you are more than conquerors through him that loved us (Romans 8:37)? You see why God's Word says

greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4)? When you really believe God's Word, you confess it, act on it, and discover your souls are electrifying!

The word "Hope" in God's Word is always in the future; it is not available now. The "hope of glory" occurs upon the return of Christ - it is a future reality. Hope is in God's time table. It is "hope of glory" because you and I are heaven bound! When Christ returns, we shall be like him. It's the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation that motivates our believing and hope! Philippians 2:1-5:

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Let this mind [these thoughts] be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.

When we think the same thoughts that Jesus Christ thought, we manifest ourselves as sons and daughters of God doing the will of our Father. God sees all our potential and knows all we can do. We have God in Christ in us!

This month's teaching focused on Love equals action! The love of God inspires people to be their best. Love is to do. Love is to act. God's Word is His commandments. If you love God, you keep His commandments. God's Word says it is God in Christ in you, the hope of glory. Each born again believer has God in Christ in them, the hope of glory! You are a super-conqueror. God's Word says greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4). As a born again believer, we are confident in God's Word. We confess it, act on it, and know our souls are electrifying!

Father, thank you, that we might be filled with the knowledge of Your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. Thank you that we might walk worthy of our calling to be sons and daughters of God and that the thoughts that were in your only begotten son are in us. We walk in confidence that we can be well pleasing to you, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of your Word. Thank you for the awesome power you have given us in Christ. Amen.

Next month's teaching subject: The love (*agapao*) of God in the renewed mind in manifestation.

In the Lord,

Ministry of Reconciliation Son of God through Jesus Christ Ambassador for Christ