



1 JOHN

Loving Others (1 John 2:7-17)

1 John 2:7-17 (ESV)

- ⁷ Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard.
- ⁸ At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.

1 John 2:7-17 (ESV)

- ⁹ Whoever says he is in the light and hates his brother is still in darkness.
- ¹⁰ Whoever loves his brother abides in the light, and in him there is no cause for stumbling.
- ¹¹ But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

1 John 2:7-17 (ESV)

- ¹² I am writing to you, little children,
because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.
¹³ I am writing to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I am writing to you, young men,
because you have overcome the evil one.

1 John 2:7-17 (ESV)

- I write to you, children,
because you know the Father.
- ¹⁴ I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
- I write to you, young men,
because you are strong,
and the word of God abides in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.

1 John 2:7-17 (ESV)

- ¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

Introduction: Gander to the Rescue

Love is Action



I. A New Old Commandment

A. The Golden Rule

- “Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but **an old commandment** that you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have heard” (1 John 2:7)
- **The Golden Rule:** “You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but **you shall love your neighbor as yourself:** I am the LORD” (**Leviticus 19:18**).
- “For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Galatians 5:14).

I. A New Old Commandment

B. Exemplified in Christ

- “At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, **which is true in him** and in you” (1 John 2:8).
- **The Golden Rule is fulfilled in and by Jesus:**
- “**A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another:** just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35).
- “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends**” (John 15:12-13).

I. A New Old Commandment

C. Empowered in Us

- “At the same time, it is a new commandment that I am writing to you, which is true in him **and in you**” (1 John 2:8).
- **WE are empowered to live out the Golden Rule:**
- “**I will give them a heart to know me**, that I am the LORD, and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart” (Jeremiah 24:7).
- “Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, **according to the power at work within us**” (Ephesians 3:20).
- “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even **the Spirit of truth**, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. **You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you**” (John 14:15-17).

II. Walking in the Light of Doctrinal Truths (1 John 2:12-14)

A. “Little Children” (1 John 2:12, 13c)

- “I am writing to you, **little children**, because your **sins are forgiven** for his name's sake” (1 John 2:12).
- “I write to you, children, because **you know the Father**” (1 John 2:13c).
- **Audience: New Believers**
- **Topic: Salvation** (Soteriology, Justification)
- “And there is salvation in no one else, for there is **no other name** under heaven given among men and women **by which we must be saved**” (Acts 4:12).

II. Walking in the Light of Doctrinal Truths (1 John 2:12-14)

B. “Fathers” (1 John 2:13a, 14a)

- “I am writing to you, **fathers**, because you know **him who is from the beginning**” (1 John 2:13a).
- “I am writing to you, **fathers**, because you know **him who is from the beginning**” (1 John 2:14a).

- **Audience: Mature Believers**
- **Topic: Divinity of Jesus Christ (Christology)**
- “**In the beginning was the Word**, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . . **And the Word became flesh** and dwelt among us” (John 1:1, 14).
- “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through me**”(John 14:6).

II. Walking in the Light of Doctrinal Truths (1 John 2:12-14)

C. “Young Men” (1 John 2:13b, 14b)

- “I am writing to you, young men,
because **you have overcome** the evil one” (1 John 2:13b).
- “I write to you, young men,
because **you are strong**,
and **the word of God** abides in you,
and **you have overcome** the evil one.”
- **Audience:** Active Christians
- **Topic:** Empowerment through the Holy Spirit (Pneumatology)
- Isaiah 40: 29-31 (next slide)

Isaiah 40:29-31

- He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
³¹ **but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;**
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:29-31)

III. Love Not the World

(1 John 2:15-17a)

- “¹⁵ **Do not love the world or the things in the world.** If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—*the desires of the flesh* and the desires of the eyes and **pride of life**—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires”
- **A. Augustine’s Three Big Vices (1 John 2:16)**
 - 1. *Lust (Physical Pleasure)* “*the desires of the flesh*” Sex trafficking
 - 2. Avarice (Greed, Envy) “the desires of the eyes” 2008 R.E. crash
 - **3. Ambition (Power)** “**pride of life**” Wars

III. Love Not the World

(1 John 2:15-17a)

- **B. Love-Based Priorities**

- **1. Looking Outward: God and Others**

- “And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these” (Mark 12:30-31).

- **2. Pitfalls of Looking Inward: Egotism**

- King Nebuchadnezzar “Is not this great Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?” (Daniel 4:30).

III. Love Not the World

(1 John 2:15-17a)

- **B. Love-Based Priorities**

- **3. Spiritual Development of Self**

- “Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit” (2 Corinthians 3:17-18).

Closing: Abiding Forever

(1 John 2:17b)

- “But whoever does the will of God **abides forever**” (1 John 2:17b)
- **And what is the will of God?**
- “The grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, **that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners**, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But I **received mercy** for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to **those who were to believe in him for eternal life**” (1 Timothy 1:14-16).

Let Us Pray

