

DSBC
PT: RA
Study: Characteristics of Super-Grace (#10)

Date: 1/20/16
Text: 2 Cor.8:7
File: Wednesday

Lesson: SUPER-GRACE LOVE (part two)

At Tuesday's Bible study, we introduced agape love as the fifth characteristic of Super-grace from 2 Cor.8:7.

We learned that Jesus Christ elevated agape love by the New Commandment of the New Covenant messianic period (Matt.22:34-40; John 13:34-35).

The New Commandment of agape love demands all of the believer's heart, soul, and mind (Deut.6:5; Matt.22:37-38/ "the great and foremost commandment.")

*"A new commandment I give to you, **that you** love one another, **even as I** have loved you, **that you** also love one another." (John 13:34; Eph.5:1-2)*

"I have been crucified with Christ; and 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 delivered Himself up for me." (Gal.2:20)

This lesson will study three additional aspects of Super-Grace Love (part two).

1. John 13:34 is impossible apart from being spiritually being born again (1 Pet.1:23) by the gospel of grace salvation and being indwelt by Holy Spirit (1 Cor.6:19-20) (1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; John 10:28-29).

The new commandment can only be accomplished by the spiritual believer. *"By this the love of God was manifested in us, **that** God has sent His only begotten Son into the world **so that** we might live through Him. **In this** is love, **not that** we love loved God, **but that** He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:9-10)*

*"We love, because **He first loved us**." (1 John 4:19; Rev.2:4/ church of Ephesus/ Acts 20:28; 1 Cor.6:19-20; John 14:16-17)*

2. There is a basic need in every member of the human race for the love of God relationship lost through Adam's original sin (AOS).

*"That they would **seek God**, if perhaps they might **grope for Him** and find Him, though He is **not far** from each one of us." (Acts 17:27)*

The god of this world offers substitutes for the love of God (John 12:31; 1 John 5:19). *"And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.." (2 Cor.4:3-4; John 12:31)*

In the meeting with Nicodemus, Jesus introduced to this religious leader the concept of God loving the world rather than the world loving God (John 3:1-21/ **3 sections** of “truly, truly sayings;” 3:1-3, 4- 10, 11-21; 1 John 4:19),

I want to call your attention to the **third section** of “truly, truly saying” (John 3:11-21). Jesus declared God’s love for the world and Jesus’ role in it (John 3:16-18). Then Jesus tells us the consequences of not believing in Him for eternal life (John 3:19-21, 36).

*“This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, **and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.**” (John 3:19; Luke 6:32) (John 8:12; 1 John 1:5; 2 Cor.4:4)*

“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 John 3:14; Rom.5:12; 1 Cor.15:22; Eph.2:4-9)

3. New Covenant Agape Love of God is important to every stage of spiritual growth.

Stage one (*brephos*/ 1 Pet.1:23; 2:2) – **Rom.5:5, 8**; 1 Cor.2:14-3:3

Stage two (*nepios*/ 1 Cor.13:11; Heb.5:13) – **1 Cor.2:9-10**; 1 John 4:7-10, 19

Stage three (*teknon*/ Gal.4:19; **1 John 3:1-2**) – 1 John 3: 14-18, **22-24**; 4:11-15; 5:1-5

Stage four (**teleios**/ Heb.5:14; Eph.4:13-15/ super-grace) – **1 Cor.16:14**; 1 John 4:16-19; 1 John 2:5-8, 10; **Eph.3:16-19**; Col.3:12-14; **Phil.1:9-11**; Rom.13:8-10

“And may the Lord direct your hearts *into* the love of God and *into* the steadfastness of Christ.” (2 Thess.3:5)