

1 John 3 – Let us Love One Another (Part 10)

The extraordinary love of God towards mankind, and the effects of it 1 John Chapter 3 (1-3)

REVIEW: We are studying how wonderful **God's love** is in Chapter 3 of 1 John. In the last few weeks, we learned how God's love is characterized in 1 Cor chapter 13.

What a comfort it is that God's love ...

- Never Fails
- Goes beyond the boundaries of ordinary love
- Is eternal
- Is divine
- never ceases

Starting today, we'll return to 1 John and continue our study there.

NEXT WEEK is Thanksgiving week ... so there will be no lesson on Nov 24 and for the remainder of the year. This will give you all a chance to catch up on lessons you may have missed and time to spend getting ready for the holiday season upon us. We'll resume in January – date TBA.

ANSWERS TO PART 9 – If we were meeting in person ... we would be looking up scripture together (noting different translations), have classroom discussion for definitions, and together fill in the blanks provided in the lessons. So in lieu of that ... answers will be provided on the last page for last weeks' lesson in order to give you some study time to complete the lessons yourself. Please know that you will get the most benefit out of the lessons if you delve into God's word yourself, look up definitions, and fill in the blanks provided.

OVERVIEW The Command to Love

(1) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us (given to us), that we should be called children of God (and so we are)! Therefore, the world does not know us, (and the reason is) because it did not know Him.

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(1c) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us (given to us),

From all His works the same summons echoes. They all call us to see mirrored in them His loving care. The Cross of Christ and the gift of a Divine Spirit cry aloud to every ear in tones of more beseeching entreaty and of more imperative command to ... 'behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us.'

Bestowed on us speaks of many things. First, it speaks of the measure of God's love to us; it could more literally be translated *lavished on us*. Secondly, it speaks of the manner of God's giving of love.

Bestowed has the idea of a one-sided giving, instead of a return for something earned. The term has richest significance in expressing God's abundant gift of grace and love.

What does **PS 103** say about God's love? The NKJV passage is listed below for your convenience.

HINT: Verse 3 says God **forgives**

What else do you see about God's love? (make a list or underline or highlight)

- (1) Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, *ble*ss His holy name!
- (2) Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:
- (3) Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,
- (4) Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies
- (5) Who satisfies your mouth with good *things*, *So that* your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- (6) The LORD executes righteousness And justice for all who are oppressed.

- (7) He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel.
(8) The LORD *is* merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.
(9) He will not always strive *with us*, Nor will He keep *His anger* forever.
(10) He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.
(11) For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;
(12) As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.
(13) As a father pities *his* children, So the LORD pities those who fear Him.
(14) For He knows our frame; He remembers that we *are* dust
(15) As *for* man, his days *are* like grass; As a flower of the field, so he flourishes.
(16) For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, And its place remembers it no more.
(17) But the mercy of the LORD *is* from everlasting to everlasting On those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children,
(18) To such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them.
(19) The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all.
(20) Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word.
(21) Bless the LORD, all *you* His hosts, *You* ministers of His, who do His pleasure.
(22) Bless the LORD, all His works, In all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

This space is left blank for those of you who would like to make a list:

What does **2 Cor 8:1** say about God's love? **Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia**

CONSIDER: What did you learn about today's lesson? What made an impression on you?

RESPOND: Please take a moment to reflect on this lesson and how we can show others that God's love is in us. If you're open to sharing => **click** on the web link (on the Ladies of Grace web page).

REMINDER: Answers to last weeks' lesson are on the last page.

PRAYER *Father, I come to you ready to receive a greater assurance of the love You have for me. Come into my heart and take full possession of it. Activate my faith to proclaim Your great love wherever I go. I am your beloved because Jesus is my rescuer and leads me into an authentic relationship with You. I choose to see You in the midst of the trials... May the goodness of Your fatherhood be my supreme reality. I receive Your love and walk in Your safe pastures today.*

<https://rediscoveringprayer.com/a-fathers-love/>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/gills-exposition-of-the-bible/1-john-3-1.html>
<https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/1-john-3/>
<https://www.bibleref.com/1-John/3/1-John-3-1.html#commentary>

7a Love bears all things (Love always protects, Love is strong)

DEFINE bears to endure (an ordeal or difficulty)

DEFINE covers put something over or in front of, especially in order to protect or conceal it

1 Peter 4:8 And above all things have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.”

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7b Love believes all things

DEFINE believe to accept something as true

DEFINE innocent not guilty of a crime or offense

Ephesians 4:2 With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love.

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7c Love hopes all things

Rom 12:12 “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.”

Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Rom 5:5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

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7d Love endures all things (Perseveres)

Matthew 5:44-45 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you that you may be sons of your Father in heaven;

Rom 15:5 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had,

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8a Love never fails

DEFINE fail unsuccessful, unable to meet a goal, let’s down, lacking, comes up short, weak

13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love

1 John 4:8 God is love