



Love in Deed

1 John 3:16-19

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 • Pastor Josiah Kagin

Introduction:

Love seems to be an overused and undervalued word in our society. With the same word we express appreciation for a piece of pie as well as for a special person. Even in relationships, love is often expressed based a present feeling and not enduring commitment. However blurred the perception of love is in society around us, we should be mindful that love is central to Christianity because it is a dominate characteristic of Christ Himself. We would not know love without having first experienced it from Him. The Apostle John, the disciple of love, urges believers to look at Christ's love for us and in turned demonstrate that love to one another in real, practical, tangible ways. Let's grow in Christ's love together!

1. A _____ of Love ⁽¹⁶⁾

1 John 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

QUOTE: Love. How did one show it? How could God Himself show truth and love at the same time in a world like this? By dying. The answer stood out for me sharper and chillier than it ever had before that night: the shape of a Cross etched on the history of the world. — Corrie ten Boom

DEFINITION—PERCEIVE: recognize and discern

DEFINITION—LAID DOWN: to give up; set aside

Matthew 27:50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

2. An _____ of Love ⁽¹⁷⁾

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1 John 3:17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

DEFINITION—SHUTTETH UP: to close; to move (something) so that an opening or passage is obstructed; make shut.

James 2:14–17 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, 16 And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? 17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

3. A _____ to Love (18-19)

1 John 3:18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

MY LITTLE CHILDREN — a term of endearment and love

LOVE IN DEED AND TRUTH — words are _____ if they are not backed up with _____.

QUOTE: Love with shoes on. —Darrell Champlin

QUOTE: The heathen were wont to exclaim with astonishment: 'Behold how these Christians love one another, and how they are ready to die for one another. — Tertullian; Christian apologist (2nd Century)

***Acts 4:34–37** Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need. 36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus, 37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.*

Conclusion

1 John 3:19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.



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