

Human Suffering, Injustice and the Christian Response (pt. 2)

Revelation 2:1-5

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A. What We Must Recover: First Love for Jesus Christ

1. First Love Defined Romans 5:5

2. First Love Present

a. Newness of First Love Romans 6:4

- New desires in life: 2 Cor. 5:17
- New direction for life: Phil. 1:21-23

b. Enthusiasm of First Love

- Zeal for God's Word: Psalm 119:103, Psalm 119:127, Job 23:12
- Zeal for Prayer: Psalm 109:4
- Zeal for Fellowship: Psalm 119:63, Malachi 3:16, Rom. 1:11
- Zeal for the Lost: Psalm 119:136, Romans 10:1
- Zeal for Christ-likeness: Psalm 17:15, Gal. 4:19

c. Objects of First Love

- God: Luke 10:27
- God's people: John 13:33-34
- Lost sinners: Matthew 9:36

3. First Love Lost

a. Dullness of Christian Practice: Jeremiah 48:10, Romans 12:9-13

b. Decay of Spirituality: Matthew 24:12, 2 Tim. 4:10

c. Deterioration of Spiritual Relationships: Philippians 2:19-21, Psalm 142:4

4. First Love Recovered

a. Repentance of current condition: Revelation 2:5

b. Restoration of zealous devotion: Acts 2:42

c. Rediscovering the Biblical Church: Acts 2:43-48