



# FUNDAMENTAL GRACE BIBLE STUDY

## Galatians

24 September 2017

Lesson 22: Galatians 5:6

*Rightly Dividing Love in the Bible*

### 1. Review

- a. Galatians 5 shows Paul's correction against religious flesh by reinforcing the "mind of Christ"
- b. The mind of Christ finds motivation by God's commended love & our position in Christ by grace

### 2. Rightly Dividing Love in the Bible

- a. *Love* def. – an affection of the mind excited by the qualities of an object
- b. God is love, but is this all he is? – 1Jn4:16; Cf. Deu4:7
- c. Love, while a good and right word is not so specific that it anchors completely to truth
- d. Example: Men can love good or evil – Jer5:31; Jn3:19

### 3. Old Testament Love: God & Israel (covenant-oriented, performance-based)

- a. God loved his firstborn son...life came by commandment-keeping – Deu7:7-15
- b. God's law required love of himself, neighbors & strangers – Deu6:5,25; Lev19:18,34
- c. Whoever did God's commandments, showed their love toward him – Deu13:1-4
- d. Loving God by commandment-keeping will bring physical blessing – Deu30:1-8
- e. NT: God will circumcise Israel's heart to love him, heart & soul to live – Deu30:6
- f. David loved God's law & recognized prosperity obedience brought – Ps119:151-168

### 4. Old Testament Love: Jesus & Israel (covenant-oriented, performance-based)

- a. Jesus lived & proclaimed the weightier matters of the commandments – Mt5:18-20
- b. Loving enemies was required to be a child of the Father – Mt5:43-47
- c. Being **perfect** as the Father is perfect was required – Lev19:2; Mt5:48; 1Pe1:15,16
- d. Loving requires hating something else, double-mind. breeds instability – Mt6:22-24
- e. Love required seeking the kingdom, not possession – Mt6:25-34
- f. Love required both hearing and doing the commandments – Mt7:12,24,28
- g. **Eternal life** hinged on commandment-keeping + selling possessions – Mt19:16-30
- h. The two greatest commandments concerned loving God & neighbor – Mt22:37-40
- i. Love required a keeping **all** of the Mosaic law & the weightier matters – Mt23:1-3,23
  - i. The weightier matters was the "love of God" – Cf. Lu11:42
- j. To love God was to receive him sent of God: Jesus – Jn5:37-47
  - i. To be a child of God was to love Jesus – Jn8:42-51
  - ii. To be a sheep was to hear Jesus and follow him to eternal life – Jn10:25-30
  - iii. Jesus gave a "new commandment" for disciples love one another – Jn13:34,35
  - iv. Loving Jesus: keep his commandments/words...loved of the Father – Jn14:15-24
  - v. Jesus modeled loving the Father by doing the commandments given him – Jn14:31
  - vi. Disciples are branches of Jesus (vine)...they are burned by not keeping commands
  - vii. Disciples keep commandments to abide in Jesus' love – Jn15:1-10
  - viii. Disciples that don't love one another are not Jesus' friends – Jn15:12-17
  - ix. Christ commissioned the disciples to teach observance of **all** commandments – Mt28:20

### 5. New Testament Love: Christ & the Remnant (covenant-oriented, performance-based)

- a. The Hebrews were required to labor in love – Heb6:1-12
- b. The Hebrews received the Spirit & instructed to continue in love & good works – Heb10:22-26
- c. The scattered tribes were required to endure temptation to receive the crown of life – Jas1:12
- d. The law of liberty, hearing and doing, blessing & receiving were required – Jas2:5-14
- e. Trial of faith, love of the Lord until the end would result in grace & salvation – 1Pe1:7-16



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- f. Their hearts were purified through unfeigned love of the brethren – 1Pe1:22
  - g. Knowing God is proven by keeping the commandments – 1Jn2:3-29
  - h. Abiding in Christ means they will not sin...those born of God don't sin – 1Jn3:1-24
  - i. If they do not love your brother, you are not abiding in God's love & not of God – 1Jn4:1-21
  - j. They keep God's commandments as validation that they are born of God – 1Jn5:1-4,18
  - k. They walk in truth by keeping the commandments (the doctrine of Christ) – 2Jn1:4-9
  - l. They must keep themselves in the love of God unto eternal life – Jude1:21
  - m. They must be zealous, do commandments & endure – Rev3:15-22; 12:17; 14:12,13; 22:14
- 6. Dispensation of Grace: Christ & the Body (love motivation, not obligation)**
- a. The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost – Rom5:1-11
  - b. The Spirit made us members of his body, undeniable – 1Cor12:13; Cf. 2Tim2:13
  - c. God's love and grace has appeared to all men, not by works, but by mercy – Ti2:11; 3:3-7
  - d. Christ is the beloved, and we are complete in him – Eph1:6,7; Col2:9,10
  - e. Love is not a commandment, but should be our motivation – 2Cor8:1-12,24
  - f. We do not have to strive to be perfect, we are "perfect" in Christ – 1Cor2:6; Col1:12-28