

A Cold Front Is Blowing In

Sunday Morning, February 12, 2012

Thesis:

To "Love One Another" Is A Command For Which Every Believer Will Be Judged

Introduction:

Just yesterday we thought a cold front was blowing in. The air cooled down and the clouds were rolling in. When we see or hear about a cold front blowing in many people make preparations to keep warm. If they have a fireplace, they bring in wood. If they think it is going to be a particularly bad storm, they find candles, matches and extra blankets. They may even make sure they have a snow shovel handy, so they can dig out.

Storms will happen. They are part of life. They even happen in our spiritual life. We sometimes let cold fronts blow in to our hearts. Our hearts are never to grow cold. We are to make preparations like we do when a weather cold front is blowing in. We are to keep warm on the inside. We are to keep our love for God and people on fire.

**Agape Love Can and Does Grow Cold,
But It's Not Supposed To!**

I. Love is Not Just Emotion It is an Act of Obedience **(John 15: 9-14)**

9 "As the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you. Remain in My love.

10 If you keep My commands you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commands and remain in His love.

11 "I have spoken these things to you so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

12 This is My command: Love one another as I have loved you.

13 No one has greater love than this, that someone would lay down his life for his friends.

14 You are My friends if you do what I command you.

Remain in God's Love and Know Joy

(John 13: 34 – 35)

34 "I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another.

35 By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Love is a Command - A Witness of Christ

II. Guard Against Love Growing Cold **(Matthew 24: 9-13)**

9 "Then they will hand you over for persecution, and they will kill you. You will be hated by all nations because of My name.

10 Then many will take offense, betray one another and hate one another.

11 Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

12 Because lawlessness will multiply, the love of many will grow cold.

13 But the one who endures to the end will be delivered.

Lawlessness Makes Love Grow Cold

(Matthew 16:24)

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wants to come with Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me.

Carrying One's Cross Is An Act of Love

(Galatians 5: 22-23)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith,

23 gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Can You See God's Love in You?

III. Stand Confident in God's Love!

(I Corinthians 13: 1-8)

1 If I speak human or angelic languages but do not have love, I am a sounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

2 If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.

3 And if I donate all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body in order to boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not conceited,

5 does not act improperly, is not selfish, is not provoked, and does not keep a record of wrongs.

6 Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth.

7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for languages, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

Love is Required In All Things

(I John 4:17)

In this, love is perfected with us so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment, for we are as He is in this world.

In Love We Stand Confident Before Him!

Conclusion:

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