



First Epistle of John

1 John 3:13-15 – Practice of Love vs. Hatred

- Summary of *1 John 3:11,12 - Love One Another*
 - Loving one another is a new life - as Christ loved us - *John 13:34,35*.
 - Cain's murder of Abel indicates the extremes of evil and good i.e. Christ and Satan.
- *1 John 3:13 - Do not marvel, my brethren, if the world hates you.'*
 - *marvel not is to wonder or even to be had in admiration; and this is imperative – don't do it, wonder or admire!*
 - » *John 3:7 - Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.*
 - » *Gal 1:6 - I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,*
 - *if the world (kosmos) hates (indicative mood) you*
 - *if here provides a non-standard conditional clause. The conclusion is prior to the proposal. Notice that this is not a proposal, but a command based on the condition – don't be surprised!*
 - How's this for more identification?
 - » *John 15:18 - If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you.*



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- Do you think *the world hates* you?
 - Should not Christians to the world be what Abel was to Cain?
 - » How often do we find ourselves in this position?
 - Hiebert – ‘Of central importance for victory when a Christian is subjected to the world's hatred is the recognition that **hatred is the natural response of the sinful world toward righteousness.**’
- So, should we try to make *the world hate* us?
 - Smith – ‘It is no wonder if the world hate us, and its judgment is not decisive. Nevertheless, **our business is not to be hated by the world, but to commend Jesus to it and win it.** We must not impute to the world's hostility to goodness, the consequences of our own unamiability or tactlessness.’
 - » Yet *James 4:4 - Adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.*
 - » What is *friendship with the world*?
- ***1 John 3:14 - We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.***



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- *We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren.*
 - *We know (eido) and have passed, and love (agapaō) are all indicative mood; thus, these are facts!*
 - *have passed (metabainō) – perfect tense and indicates that we have left one state of being for another.*
 - *What do you consider having passed from death to life means?*
 - » *Col 1:13 - He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,*
 - *because we love the brethren - how are you doing at this?*
 - » *1 John 2:9 - He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.*
 - » *1 John 4:20 - If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, he cannot love God whom he has not seen?*
 - *How does this new life we have in Christ Jesus take the pressure off?*
- *Moreover, He who does not love abides in death.*
 - *Again, isn't this entirely the new life we have in Christ!*
 - *How else can such a love (agapaō) exist, in the flesh?*



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- Why then does John go on to say *without love we abide in death*?
- Isn't this how our position impacts our condition, by abiding faith?
 - » *Phil 3:8 - Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,*
 - » *John 5:38 - But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe.*
- ***1 John 3:15 - Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.***
 - *Whoever hates his brother is a murderer*
 - Who is this *brother*, a member of the body or anyone?
 - Strong – in context 'a fellow-believer, united to another by the bond of affection.'
 - Why this tough descriptor, *a murderer*?
 - Notice the contrast; isn't this the apostle John, i.e., white vs. black, *light vs. darkness*?
 - Murder is the ultimate outward expression of hatred, and this represents his current state.
 - » *Matt 5:21,22 - "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not*



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murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.’ But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire.

- Aren't we so glad that we don't live under law?

- *JFB* ‘Such a one who still “abides in death.” It is not his *future* state, but his *present*, which is referred to. He *who hates* (that is, loveth not) *his brother* (*1John 3:14*), cannot in this present state have eternal life abiding in him.

– *and you know (eido) that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.*

- » *John 8:44* - “*You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.*”
- » *John 14:6* - *Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*”