

1 JOHN Class Outline



7/10/2022	Chapter 3: v 13-15	Practice of Love vs. Hatred
7/17/2022	Chapter 3: v 16-18	How we know Christ's love
7/24/2022	Chapter 3: v 19-22	Confidence before God
7/31/2022	Chapter 3: v 23-24	Union with Christ
8/7/2022	Chapter 4: v 1-3	Spirit of truth vs. the Spirit of error part 1
8/14/2022	Chapter 4: v 4-6	Spirit of truth vs. the Spirit of error part 2
8/21/2022	Chapter 4: v 7-10	Let us love one another
8/28/2022	Chapter 4: v 11-13	Redeeming Love part 1
9/4/2022	Chapter 4: v 14-16	Redeeming Love part 2
9/11/2022	Chapter 4: v 17-19	God is Love part 1
9/18/2022	Chapter 4: v 20-21	God is Love part 2

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1 JOHN 3:16 -18



¹⁶ We know love by this,
that He laid down His life for us; and
we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

¹⁷ But whoever has the world's goods,
and sees his brother in need and
closes his heart against him,
how does the love of God abide in him?

¹⁸ Little children,
let us not love with word or with tongue,
but in deed and truth.

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16 We know love by this,
that He laid down His life for us; and
we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.



Perfect,
Indicative,
Active

we [John & believers]

verb = know - *ginōskō* - to be taking in knowledge; the
know of experience

lit: we have come to know by experience

direct object = love [God's love]

- We have experienced God's love in the past and
continue to experience God's love into the present

by this (in this) - modifies know

- what follows will tell us "the how" we came to know
God's love

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16 We know love by this,
that He laid down His life for us; and
we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.



Aorist,
Indicative,
Active

He [Christ]

verb = laid down – *tithēmi* - to put, place, set, "to lay"

direct object = His life - *psychē* - the breath, the breath of
life, then "the soul"

for us (on behalf of us) - modifies laid down

- Laying down His life using the verb *tithēmi* are unique to
the Gospel of John (10:11,15,17,18; 13:37; 13:38; 15:13)
and 1 John 3:16. W. H. Harris
- John 10:11 I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd
lays down His life for the sheep.

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16 We know love by this,
that He laid down His life for us; and
we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

we [John & believers]

verb = **ought** - *opheilō* - "to owe," is translated "ought"
continuous action in the present

dir. object = **to lay down our lives**

for [on behalf of] **the brethren** - modifies to **lay down**

- It must be kept in mind that our Lord's death had atoning value, whereas our laying down our lives in glad service to our fellow man does not. Wuest
- Jesus Christ laid down His life once, and we ought to lay ours down habitually in self-sacrificing love, as the tenses of the Greek verbs suggest. Constable

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Present,
Indicative,
Active

17 **But whoever has the world's goods,**
and sees his brother in need and
closes his heart against him,
how does the love of God abide in him?

But (now) **whoever**

has - *echō* - speaking of habitual possession

dir. object = **the world's goods**

world's - refers to this mundane sphere of life on earth*

goods - *bios* - "the necessaries of life" such as food,
clothing, and shelter * Wuest

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Present,
Subjunctive,
Active

17 But whoever has the world's goods,
and **sees his brother in need** and
closes his heart against him,
how does the love of God abide in him?

but (now) **whoever**

verb = **sees** - *theōreo* - "a spectator," is used of one who
looks at a thing with intense interest

- John 20:6 --- Simon Peter also came --- entered the tomb; and he saw the linen wrappings lying there.
- It is seeing a Christian in need of the necessities of life over a long period. Wuest

direct object = **his brother** [believer] **in need**

need - *chreia* - a necessity, a need – not a want

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17 But whoever has the world's goods,
and **sees his brother in need** and
closes his heart against him,
how does the love of God abide in him?

But (now) **whoever**

verb = **closes** - *kleio* - to close, to shut up

- speaking of the fact of an action

dir. object = **his heart** – *splanchnon* - "the physical organs
of the intestines" Vine's

- It speaks here of this person who snaps shut the door of his heart toward his needy brother. Wuest

against him – fellow Christian

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17 But whoever has the world's goods,
and sees his brother in need and
closes his heart against him,
how does the love of God abide in him?



how does – *pos* – how is it possible

the love of God or better God's love for us*

Present,
Subjunctive,
Active

verb = **abide** - *meno* – remain, dwell,

in him – in the believer

- Positionally every believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit and should show forth God's love, but in his condition he may not be abiding in Christ and not showing forth God's love.

* not our love for God - Harris

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18 **Little children, let us not love**
with word or with tongue,
but in deed and truth.



little children or little born-ones

Present,
Subjunctive,
Active

let us love not

Interlinear

- The verb *agapaō* corresponds to the noun *agapē*
- Called hortatory subjunctive in Greek NT*
- This use of the subjunctive is used to urge someone to unite with the speaker in a course of action ---

* D. B. Wallace

Gal 6:9a Let us not lose heart in doing good.

- What follows is what John desires for his little born-ones.

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18 Little children, let us not love
with word or with tongue,
but in deed and truth.



with [in] word or with [in] tongue

word is *logos* - the expression of thought, discourse,
speech etc. Vine's

- in the sphere of word Wuest

tongue is *glōssa* - the tongue: as an organ of speech

- in the sphere of the tongue Wuest
- It seems better to understand the first noun in each pair as produced by the second noun: words are produced by the tongue. Harris
- The believer is not to love with words which are produced by his tongue – next we have the contrast:

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18 Little children, let us not love
with word or with tongue,
but in deed and truth.



but – *alla* - strong contrast

in deed

deed is *ergon* - denotes "a work, deed or act"

- in the sphere of deed Wuest

and [in] truth

truth - *alētheia* - truth, reality; the unveiled reality lying at
the basis of and agreeing with an appearance

[in the sphere of] truth. Wuest

- Again the first noun of the pair is produced by the second noun: a deed is produced by the truth. Harris

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Final Thoughts *



- We are dealing with the major problem underlying the entire letter [of 1 John]:
- The opponents [that John addresses] are *claiming* to be in relationship with God,
- but are *refusing* to share with their fellow believers in need,
- and this (for the author) constitutes conclusive proof that the opponents' profession to know God (or, as here, to have God's love residing in them) must be false.
- As elsewhere in 1 John, conduct becomes the clue to our paternity (we are God's children!).

* Harris

John 13:33 (NASB)

³³ "Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, now I also say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'

1 John 2:1 (NASB)

¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;

1 John 2:12 (NASB)

¹² I am writing to you, little children, because your sins have been forgiven you for His name's sake.

1 John 2:28 (NASB)

²⁸ Now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming.

1 John 3:7 (NASB)

⁷ Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous;

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