

The Importance of Loving our Brother

1 John 2:7-11

- I. A New Life – In our new life as a believer, God calls us to learn to love our brother (1 John 2:7-8; 2 John 5).
 - A. John’s command (to love our brother) is “old” in that they heard it since they were saved (7).
 - *Old/New command* = Love one another (2 John 5)
 - B. John’s command is “new” in that we must continually learn anew live like Christ – the True Light (8).
 - *In Him and in you* = Christ’s life is to be replicated in our life.
 - *Darkness/True Light* = Living like the sinful world or like Christ

- II. A New Priority on Love – Our relationships with people reveals our relationship with God (1 John 2:9-11).
 - A. No matter what we say, if we hate our brother, we are out of fellowship with God (9).
 - *Hate* = Anything less than love
 - B. If we love our brother, we are in fellowship with God and will avoid other serious mistakes (10).
 - *Abides in light* = Living in fellowship with God
 - C. If we do not love our brother, we will fall into frequent sin and frustration (11).