

**1st John # 65**

**“Actions in Truth Speak Louder than Words”**

*1st John 3:16-18; Luke 10:25-37*

The more we understand the purpose of God in which the Father’s love motivated His grace to formulate a plan and the Son’s love accepted the mission to become a man and die for the sins of the world, while the Holy Spirit’s love motivated Him to reveal the plan and mentor those who receive it; the more we can live it out with the same love that the Father taught Jesus, the man and He teaches us in the Scripture.

Only by fixing our eyes on the cross of Christ can we now know what love is and it’s only by looking at God’s image revealed in Jesus Christ’s life that we now know what righteousness is, so the identifying characteristic of a mature Church Age believer becomes the same love that our Lord expressed; a love that’s not filled with emotion or feelings but with thoughts, decisions and actions within the Father’s will.

Giving is an expression of worship which commemorates the grace policy of God and in the Church Age it’s the function of the believer’s royal priesthood that must be accomplished in privacy without being pressured.

Grace giving must express an attitude toward the Lord before it can express an attitude toward people.

They excelled in grace giving not on the basis of whether they liked someone or not but on the basis of their impersonal love from the virtue of the giver rather than the attractiveness or worthiness of the recipient because grace giving is related to motivation from biblical truth in the soul.

God graciously provides extra finances for the grace giver to give because the only legitimate system of giving is a grace giver giving to a grace cause.

God didn’t send His One and only Son into the world because He felt sorry for the world; He sent Jesus Christ because God is love and an obvious expression of His love is grace, so it was only natural for Him to meet a need.

**If we’re not expressing unconditional impersonal love with compassion demonstrated by meeting legitimate needs that other people have, especially our brothers and sisters in Christ, then we’re not fulfilling the purpose God has for us in advancing to spiritual maturity through intimate experiential abiding fellowship with Jesus Christ.**

And grace is an outward expression of unwarranted generosity; not because we know who the other person is, what they are or what they need but because of who we are in Christ.

In *1st John 3:18*, John is giving an order to challenge every believer who reads this to apply Jesus’ command to love one another as He loved the church, so he says: Don’t just talk

**about it giving it lip service; acknowledge it first with your thoughts, belief and intentions but then apply it and live it or your thoughts and intentions are meaningless.**

**Love, simply with thought or audible language only is personal love but impersonal love doesn't speak; it begins with a biblical mental attitude and then is expressed by outward function from the integrity of the one doing the loving without necessarily communicating our intentions to the recipient of the love and toleration is a great illustration of this.**

**Apart from daily living beyond bread alone with spiritual feeding on the Word of God, there cannot be personal love for God.**

**While personal love exists in our lives, emphasis here is on impersonal love which is the source of all capacity in life for all happiness, all blessing and all true prosperity and the increase of impersonal love capacity advances us to spiritual maturity in fulfilment of the Church Age plan of God.**