

**1st John # 80**

**“Do what He says, and what He does”**

*1st John 5:1-4*

**All disciples of Jesus Christ are believers but not all believers are disciples because disciples are imitators of the Lord Jesus.**

**We're all born spiritually dead; we're physically alive but we're also spiritually dead which simply means we're separated from God.**

*Even after we're saved, although we're no longer slaves to our sin nature, we're still corrupt fallen sinners and when we as believers walk according to our sin nature, we produce evil corruption that's highly self-destructive.*

**Discipleship is living today in light of eternity; doing what Jesus says and what He does, recognizing that my personal pleasures, my personal desires and goals, no matter how great they may be, will not distract me from my spiritual goal of living today to serve the Lord Jesus and have my life count for eternity.**

**If we choose to reject God's plan of grace and truth and live in rebellion, walking according to the flesh and not in the Light by rejecting biblical truth, it won't be long before we jealously hate our brothers and sisters who are walking in the Light.**

**Loving God and His children takes years to understand and develop because it only happens in spiritual adulthood and when it does, we'll have a successful evaluation at the Judgment Seat of Christ without shame, embarrassment or loss of rewards.**

**If we choose to follow God's plan by loving Him which is humble authority-orientation in keeping our Master's commands, we'll display the opposite of Satan's arrogance as it's never by prideful self-centeredness leading to jealous hatred that wins but by humility leading to genuine love.**

**The believer who lives and functions consistently in experiential abiding fellowship with Jesus Christ in the Church Age plan of God is in view here; both in the production of virtue and in its obvious expression which occurs only when we come into contact with people.**

**We don't always have the opportunity to express our impersonal love but the capacity for this powerful soul virtue must always be present.**

**When John is talking about loving all believers with impersonal love, he means the obnoxious as well as the attractive; taking into account all kinds of personalities and to be able to express impersonal love which is toleration for all believers is very important because by loving someone who may be repulsive to us, we're encouraging them to use their privacy with a positive response to God to also develop virtue, themselves.**

Impersonal love provides an environment of privacy, so no matter who you are, how you have failed, you can come and listen to biblical truth and learn without being the recipient of judging, gossip or anything else that would make it impossible for you to feel comfortable in Bible class, listening to God's Word being taught.

**Everything in our Christian life and everything that is worthwhile in life depends upon our love response to God, which is our motivating virtue.**

Establishing the invisible category of personal love for God leads to the visible display of our personalities which is not only glorifying to God but it's the part that guarantees happiness and blessing in this life regardless of circumstances and all this is dependent on our abiding fellowship with Jesus Christ.

*With love for God and confidence in God, we have the basis for every true honorable motivation and every virtue in life.*

**Our invisible expression of personal love for God is our motivation for our visible expression of impersonal love for God's created beings who are an extension of Him.**

The reason why His commands are not difficult to fulfil or burdensome is because God has provided both a so great salvation and a living-grace support system which includes everything necessary to sustain everyone from the moment they believe in Jesus Christ, all of the way to death or the Rapture, whichever occurs first.

**The initial victory over Satan's cosmic world system organization occurs at moment of salvation through faith alone in Christ alone; at that instant, the believer in Christ enters the plan of God, the place of victory.**

Just as our Lord overcame Satan's cosmic world system through His residence and function inside the prototype plan of God, we as believers in Him overcome the cosmic system through our residence and function inside the operational Church Age plan of God.

**The environment of virtue is within the plan of God, His game plan for His royal family during the Church Age and living in that plan is His will for every believer.**

The moment of salvation is the first time we are indwelt by and filled with the Holy Spirit and we can never lose the indwelling of the Holy Spirit but we do lose the filling of the Holy Spirit every time we make a decision to sin.

Love characterizes the believer who's advanced to spiritual maturity from consistent abiding fellowship with God where he's filled with the Holy Spirit, walking by the Holy Spirit's power in the Light and then the love the Holy Spirit only can produce in him is displayed.