

1 John Lesson 27 Outline

“A New Love” 1 John 2:7-11

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Love is the supreme test of our obedience because love is the greatest commandment.

John has been called the Apostle of love by many commentators through the years.

John is not writing a new commandment; new is the word, *kainos*, not so much the idea of new in time, chronologically, but the idea of something new in

_____.

If you’ve really been changed and regenerated, two things are going to be true about your life: One is you’re going to obey God, and two is you’re going to love other Christians.

John is not writing something new; he’s telling you something “old,” something he says that’s old enough so that “you have had from the beginning.” It is “the old commandment, which was the Word, which you have heard.”

The Old Testament, of course, in the Shema in Deuteronomy 6:5 demanded that God be loved with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, but Leviticus 19:18 added to that, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” and that’s part of the law that’s been around since the very, very beginning.

Not only is loving your neighbor part of the law, but loving your neighbor _____ the law.

Paul said love is the fulfilling of the whole law. There's an inseparable link between loving your neighbor and obeying God.

John wasn't inventing something new, something novel like a philosopher.

What John is actually saying here when he uses the term "beginning," is the beginning of their _____.

When somebody becomes a Christian, there needs to be a counting of the _____, people need to be told that if you're going to be a Christian, that is a commitment to obedience, to the law of God, and love toward the people of God as well.

This was part of the _____.

John also says he has a new commandment.

And the newness of it is it is manifest truly in Jesus Christ.

Never has that love been so clearly manifest so as to be seen in its perfection as in Jesus Christ.

Other scriptures cited: 1 John 2:3-5, 1 John 1, 3:2, 21, 4:1, 7; 3 John 2; Mark 3:17; 1 John 3:10, 5:1-2; 2 John 6; Lev. 19:18; Deut. 6:5; Lev. 19:18; Rom. 13:8, 9-10; Matt. 22:37-40