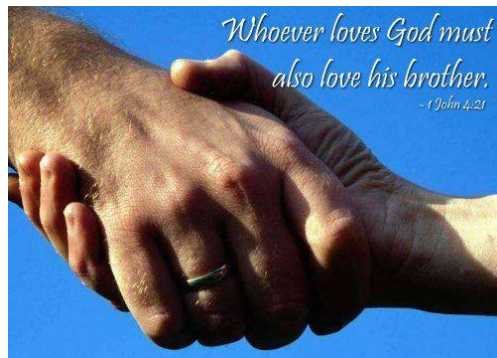


9/29/2024



LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION:

Do you hate anyone?

Now that's a strong word – hate. So it's: "I just dislike, strongly" = and use less strong words

THE DEFINITION OF HATE:

To dislike intensely or passionately, feel extreme aversion (strong feeling of dislike, opposition for, or extreme hostility toward, detest). And also means – and is associated with feelings of anger, disgust, a disposition of hostility.

SO...

Do you dislike intensely or feel extreme aversion toward anyone?

Do you have a hostile disposition toward anyone?

Do you have feelings of anger? That are not settled?

Or feelings of disgust for someone?

Or here's another one: [Christians should not hate!] ok -

How many of you struggle with hating [dislike intensely] yourself?

HATE IS SIN.

Whether it is aimed at others or aimed at yourself.

CHRISTIANS SHOULD NEVER HATE. CHRISTIANS SHOULD ALWAYS LOVE!

The distinguishing difference between the children of God and the children of the devil is **love for God and others – not hate!**

John covers this topic in *verses 11-18*.

3 POINTS TO REMEMBER:

I. The expectation to love (v. 11)

A. This is the message - *αγγελια* – proclamation, message

John said it in his gospel, recording **Jesus**:

John 13:34 - A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

John 15:12, 17 - This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. These things I command you, that ye love one another.

B. Because of salvation (v. 14)

II. The struggle with hate, or hate feelings

A. Hate is all around us (v. 13)

Matthew 5:21-22

B. The example of Cain (v. 12)

III. The danger of hate (v. 15)

A. Hate is murder (strong word) - An intense, emotional feeling, the desire to get rid of a person. The question is not so much: What did you do? But what did you *want* to do?

B, What it does to people - Hate **hurts** (badly) those who it is directed to: kills feelings, crushes spirits, cuts to the core of a human being!

CONCLUSION:

- Ok, so let me speak to one more thing:
- What about loving people (v.11) we don't like?
- Ok, so we shouldn't hate them (strongly dislike)
- But love is a choice, a matter of obedience!
- That's why I say today, from our text: Love, not hate.