Brotherhood #1

Tony Mauck · Hebrews 13:1

INTRODUCTION

- The relation of brothers is so very important.
- If someone says, I love God and hates his brother, he is a liar. For the one who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen.
- This is not optional teaching. This is not any less significant than our moral purity or the purity of our speech.

1 Let Love of the Brethren Continue

Hebrews 13:1; Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 1:22

- The first thing that I want you to see in Hebrews chapter 13 and verse 1 is that they were already practicing love of the brethren.
- But he says, let that continue. This is something to build upon.
- Romans chapter 12 and verse 10 says that we are to be devoted to one another in Philadelphia or brotherly love.
- Our souls are purified in obedience to the truth, Unto an unfeigned, a real, a genuine love of the brethren.

2 Love of the Brethren Is Not Content With Mere Words

1 John 3:18

- This important quality that he says must continue among the Lord's people, love of the brethren. It is not content with mere words.
- Let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed in truth.
- He's not saying don't do that. He's saying don't stop with that.
- Let us not love merely in word or in tongue, but let it be demonstrated in our actions.
- It is far easier for me to say, I love you, than it is to practice and demonstrate that love.

3 Real Love for Brethren Is Costly

1 John 3:16

- Real love for brethren is potentially a very costly thing. That's why some are content merely to mouth the words rather than to demonstrate in practice.
- We know love by this that he laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
- Intercessory prayer is going to involve a sacrifice of time and an attention to your brother's needs and circumstances.
- Consistently assembling is an indication of our real affection for the brethren.

4 Encourage, Rebuke, and Want Their Salvation

1 Thessalonians 5:11; 1 Corinthians 5

- Therefore, encourage one another and build up one another just as you also are doing.
- Moments and occasions when rebuke is necessary. When discipline is necessary. That doesn't mean that we don't love a person.
- We need to emphasize the fact that the goal of this is that the Spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.
- What do I want for you? What do I want? I want you to go to heaven.
- I want him to repent. I don't want him to be lost. I don't wish that on my worst enemy.

5 Why You Should and Must Love Your Brother

1 Corinthians 12

- By the Spirit, you were all baptized into one body.
- Now you are members of the body of Christ. There are many members, but one body.
- God gives more abundant honor to the member that lacks. He levels the playing field.
- Just because I can stand up here and preach a lesson, doesn't make me better than any other member of the body of Christ.
- Everybody is not going to be the same. It's not going to be a cookie cutter.

THE CHALLENGE

Value it, regard it highly, and let us subject ourselves to one another in the fear of Christ.

MY NOTES