Let Love Of The Brethren Continue

Tony Mauck · Hebrews 13:1

INTRODUCTION

- God cares not just about our actions, but our attitudes. And we are to be developing, as we see in Philippians 2 and verse 5, the mind of Christ.
- But the time to do the work is now. Not when you're in the middle of a crisis in a local church.
- Let it continue. Do not discontinue. Don't begin. Let it go on. It is already present in your practice.

1 Scriptures Emphasize the Importance of Brotherly Attitudes

Galatians 5:13–23; Ephesians 4:31–32; Colossians 3:12–13

- The scriptures over and over again emphasize the importance of brotherly attitudes. Again, not just the right religious acts, but possessing the right attitudes toward each other.
- I want you to love one another and beware lest you do what? Bite and devour one another. That would be the opposite of love.
- Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.
- Put on a heart, he says, of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. There's your mind of Christ.

2 Everyone Who Hates His Brother Is a Murderer

1 John 3:14–18

- Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer. Now you don't have to shoot him with a gun or slay him with a knife. You can just assassinate his character.
- You can gossip about him. You can slander him. You can think evil of him when you should not. You can be jealous and envious of his success and praise.
- He laid down his life for us. And we ought to be like it. We ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
- Let us not love with word or in tongue, but in deed in truth.

3 That Difficult Brother or Sister in Christ

Galatians 3:26–28; 1 Corinthians 12:22–24

- Bringing unlikely people together is what Christianity is all about.
- The main point that all of you that have been baptized into Christ are now one in Christ. Jew and Gentile.
- If they stay at it spiritually and are persevering in faith, God loves them. God gives more abundant honor to the member that lacks.

- Wouldn't it be something if they got to go to heaven and I didn't because of my awful attitude?
- God still loves me when I am annoyed. And I didn't say if I am annoyed. Because every time I transgress, I am annoying to him.

4 When the Upset, Hurt, or Disappointment Occurs

Galatians 2

- Sometimes people get hurt and disappointed, and what happened was not even wrong conduct. It was not even sinful conduct.
- Peter had to be withstood to the face by the apostle Paul. We're talking about an apostle of Jesus Christ, one who personally knew the Lord.
- When you're hurt or disappointed, what you do? You remember love is kind. Love is patience. Love does not seek its own.
- As you would have others treat you, so treat them. If you were in their circumstance, what do they need?
- Don't sit there and stew in your juices. Do something. That this brother or sister may not even know that you feel that way.

5 It's Going to Require Effort and Work

- It's going to require effort and work. You've got to mold and cultivate these qualities. It's going to take time.
- The mind work that we're called to do, to think like Christ does and to relate to others the way he did.
- We need to have frequent and lofty thoughts of God. Because that'll help us to have lowly thoughts of ourselves.
- We must constantly be evaluating the attitudes of our heart. Not just right acts, we said tonight, but right attitudes.

THE CHALLENGE

That's how serious this topic is. We've got work to do. Let's do it to the glory of God.

MY NOTES