1 John 2.7-14 A New Commandment

Prayer Before Reading Scripture

Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered all sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.

Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.

He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.

He who loves his brother abides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him.

But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.

I write to you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, little children, because you have known the Father.

I have written to you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the wicked one.

Brethren, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.

John 13.34

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

John 13.35

By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Again, a new commandment I write to you, which thing is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away, and the true light is already shining.

Ephesians 3.16-17a

[| pray] that He [God] would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;

Ephesians 3.17b-18

that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height—

Ephesians 3.19

to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

He who says he is in the light, and hates his brother, is in darkness until now.

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Three Stages of Spiritual Maturity

<u>Little Children</u>

- Forgiven (2.12)
- Know the Father (2.13)

Young Men

- Strong (2.14)
- The Word of God abides in them (2.14)
- Overcame the wicked one (2.13)

Fathers

 Know Him Who is from the beginning (2.13, 14) Questions? Comments?