

III. MANIFESTING _____ (VV. 7-16)

“God is three persons in one essence; the Divine essence subsists wholly and indivisibly, simultaneously and eternally, in the three members of the Godhead – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”

Consider these passages: Deut. 6:4; John 10:30, 33; I Cor. 3:16; Rom. 8:9; John 14:16, 18, 23; Is. 48:16; 61:1; Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14; Rom. 15:16, 30; II Cor. 1:21-22; Eph. 2:18

- ❖ The New Testament clearly distinguishes _____ persons who are all simultaneously _____.

The _____ significant aspect of the image of God is seen in _____ capacity to love others – as demonstrated through his relational fellowship with God and with other human beings.

1. What God _____: “God is love” (vv. 7-8)

- God is _____ - John 4:24
- God is _____ - I John 1:5
- God is _____ - I John 4:7-8

- ❖ **Perfect love and the _____ of God**

That “God is love” explains several things in the biblical worldview.

- 1) It explains the reason He _____.
- 2) It explains _____ choice.
- 3) It explains His _____.
- 4) It explains the divine plan of _____.

2. What God _____: “He sent His Son” (vv. 9-11)

Two purposes for Christ’s death on the cross

- 1) That _____ might _____ through Him
- 2) That _____ might be the propitiation for our sins

- ❖ **Perfect love and the _____ of Christ**

3. What God is _____: “God abides in us” (vv. 12-16)

Because God is love, we can love.

“Love one another”...

- 1) ...begins as a _____. (I John 4:7)
- 2) ...becomes a _____. (I John 4:11)
- 3) ... is a thrilling _____ of abiding. (I John 4:12)

- ❖ **Perfect love and the _____ of faith**

OUR CORE VALUES

Belief – Practice – Virtue

Our virtues are the natural result of practicing what we believe! If we understand [“belief”] God is personal (i.e. transcendent & imminent (Psalm 121) then we will worship [“practice”] God for who He is which results in joy and peace [“virtue”]. (Psalm 95:1-7): When we practice what we believe our lives will manifest virtue.

10 Christian Beliefs WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW

Trinity (Theology Proper, Christology, Pneumatology): the belief that the God of the Bible is the only true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Salvation by Grace (Soteriology): The belief that a person comes into a right relationship with God and is saved by His grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Authority of the Bible (Bibliology): the belief that the Bible is the word of God and has the right to command our beliefs and actions (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Personal God (Transcendence, Immanence, Providence): the belief that God is involved in and cares about our daily lives (Psalm 121)

Identity in Christ (aspect of Sanctification): the belief that a person is significant because of his or her position as a child of God (John 1:12-13)

Church (Ecclesiology): the belief that the church is God’s primary way to accomplish his purposes on the earth today (Ephesians 4:15-16)

Humanity (Anthropology): the belief that all people are loved by God and need Jesus Christ as their Savior (John 3:16)

Compassion (aspect of Ecclesiology): the belief that God calls Christians to show compassion to those in need (Psalm 82:3-4)

Eternity (Eschatology): the belief that there is a heaven and a hell and that Jesus will return to judge the earth and to establish His eternal kingdom (John 14:1-4)

Stewardship (aspect of Soteriology): the belief that everything a person owns belongs to God (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

CALVARY COTTAGE COMMUNITY

Discussion:

1. Loving one another is not something we simply ought to do; it is something we want to do. Is it what I want to do? What is my greatest obstacle to accomplishing this mandate?
2. To love one another simply out of a sense of duty is good, but to love out of appreciation (rather than obligation) is even better. How do I move more in this direction? Contrast the Last Supper – Why might Jesus have told us to remember His death “This do in remembrance of Me”?
3. Propitiation is something God does to make it possible for men to be forgiven. How can God forgive sinners and still be consistent with His holy nature?

Prayer Requests:

Praises:

I prayed for the above requests this week:

Su ___ M ___ T ___ W ___ Th ___ F ___ Sa ___

SERMON NOTES

January 9, 2011

“Love at Last Sight” Part 2

Bold to Share

I John 4:1-16

I. LEARNING TO LIVE _____ (V. 1)

Satan’s basic strategy for attacking truth:

- ❖ He casts _____ on what God says.
- ❖ He _____ outright what God says.
- ❖ He _____ what God says.

1. A _____ to test (v. 1a)

2. A _____ to test (v. 1b)

- ❖ Satan does not merely oppose the Church – he wants to _____ her!

II. _____ FOR HOW TO TEST (vv. 2-6)

John offers three tests:

1. _____ of the divine Lord (vv. 2-3)
Test #1 - _____ - “Does the person confess Jesus Christ?”
2. _____ of the divine _____ (vv. 4-5)
Test #2 - _____ - “Does the person manifest evidence of the fruit of righteousness?”
3. _____ of the divine _____ (v. 6)
Test #3 - _____ - “Is this person committed to the Word of God?”

THE BIBLE IS THE SOLE AUTHORITY:

- 1) It is more sure than human experience or senses. (II Peter 1:19)
- 2) It endures forever. (I Peter 1:25)
- 3) It is trustworthy to iota and dot. (Matt. 5:18)
- 4) It is eternal and unchanging. (Isaiah 40:8)
- 5) It is the standard of truth. (John 17:17)