

Part 5 study of 1 John 3:11-24

Hello everyone. Thank you for joining me today at the PUNLA Coffee Table. So, get comfortable, get your coffee or tea or water and settle in for our talk.

I hope everyone is doing well.

Today we are continuing our study of 1<sup>st</sup> John. 1 John 3:11-24 can be summarized as Love One Another

Remember before we start reading the bible we need to remember the background of 1<sup>st</sup> John. The author is the Apostle John. Most scholars believe it was written in AD85-90. The main themes in 1st John are,

- True Teaching, True Living and True Loving
- Encourage Christian who are being persecuted (who/why it was written to and what was happening in History). Christians were being persecuted by the Romans, by the Jews and pretty much very other group.
- We can Trust “who Jesus is”
- Jesus is both man & God - ignore false teachers who deny
- Correct the wrong ideas about Jesus
- Correct idea about what is good and evil which lead to the lack of morality in the church

Today we are going to study 1<sup>st</sup> John 3:11-24.

Let's Read 1 John 3:11-16. I'm reading from the NKJV. *11This is the message you have heard from the beginning: We should love one another.* *12We must not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and killed his brother. And why did he kill him? Because Cain had been doing what was evil, and his brother had been doing what was righteous.* *13So don't be surprised, dear brothers and sisters, if the world hates you.*

*14If we love our brothers and sisters who are believers, it proves that we have passed from death to life. But a person who has no love is still dead.* *15Anyone who hates another brother or sister is really a murderer at heart. And you know that murderers don't have eternal life within them.*

*16We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters*

What does it mean to hate someone according to the bible? Reject them make them less important.

What's the ultimate example of making someone less important? To say they don't deserve to live. To kill them'.. Cain is the example John uses here. He goes on the tell us if we hate, we are a murder at heart. As Christians we know real love because of Jesus. He gave his life for us, so we should give up our pettiness, selfishness and put other ahead of ourselves like Jesus. Love others like Jesus. Or as John puts it, “ give up our lives” for others.

Let's continue with 1 John 3:17-18. I'm reading from the NKJV. *17If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person?* *18Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.*

Love in action. Verse 18 is on our T-shirts and it's the reason PUNLA Christian Ministries exists. We answered this call from John, from God. To not just talk about or think about, but actually do something about it. Love people with your actions.

What does it mean to love someone according to the bible? Make them more important than you. Our example is Jesus giving his life for us. How do we show this love? Helping someone in need? This can mean sharing the resources God has given you to steward. But it includes, sharing your time, when someone needs to talk. Speaking kind words of encouragement. It's doing what Jesus would do, faced with whatever you are facing, whoever you have in front of you.

Let's Read 1 John 3:19-21. I'm reading from the NKJV. [19And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.](#) [20For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.](#) [21Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.](#)

What is "the way of truth"? The way of Jesus. We are of the truth when we are living like Jesus asks us to live. That is why we can have confidence toward God.

If we are Christian and we do something bad, does God condemn us for our sin? No. We have peace with God no matter what. Of course we have to be walking with God, which means we repent of the sin. Another way to think about this is. If we know we messed up, we accept the consequences for our words or actions. And then try to never do it again. God will forgive our mistakes. Then we keep following Jesus. Trying to be like Jesus. Walking with Jesus. As John says. "God is greater" and "know all things" He does not condemn us when we are His children. Of course we still have to face discipline, Just like we got discipline by our parents.

Let's Read 1 John 3:22-23. I'm reading from the NKJV. [22And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.](#) [23And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.](#)

When we pray, will God give us everything we ask for? Of course not. God will give us the things He wants for us.

How do you feel when you pray for something and it doesn't happen? Could it be that what God really wants to give you is even better? Remember God answers every prayer but He rarely answers the way we expect. Sometimes it NO. sometimes it's not now, and sometimes it is Yes. Be prepared to be amazed. God loves you. Your right now is not a full picture of the plans God has for you. Your life is preparation for God's plan for you.

Let's finish with 1 John 3: 24. I'm reading from the NKJV. [24Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.](#)

What does it mean to pray "in Jesus name"? to ask with the authority of Jesus because you're asking for something Jesus wants to happen.

Too often we pray like God is a Genie or Santa Claus. We need to remember God knows everything. He knows our motives. He know what we really need. He can see our complete story. But He is only going to give us what He wants us to have. God loves us and wants the very best for us. But we need to remember what we think is best is only our opinion. God knows best.

That conclude today's study of 1 John and what Love in Action looks like.

Next week we will be studying 1 John 4:1-6 False Teachers.

**Let's Pray.**

**Father God. Thank you so much for these words from John. Thank you for accepting us into your family so we can have a relationship with you.**

**Help us to show the world your love with our actions. And help us to trust your plan for our life. Teach us what you want for us, so we can pray for the things you want to happen. Your will be done, not ours.**

**I pray this in your name, Jesus Amen**

Thank you for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please select like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or mail me at [kip@punla.org](mailto:kip@punla.org). I appreciate your feedback.

See you next time at the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.