

Scripture: Mark 10:17-31 in connection with Lord's Day 2.3-4

Psalters: 348:1-4 – 323:1-4 – 69:1-2 – 365:1-4

Intro: The Greatest Physician did not spare the patient to cure her! (John 4)

DO YOU LOVE THE WAY JESUS LOVED? (2)

I. Love defined II. Love examined

I. Love defined (see 1 Cor. 13)

A. Love is the life-breath of a genuine New Testament Church (1 Thess. 3:12)

1. Corinth struggled with practice of Christian love

2. Bear in mind: *failing to love like 1 Cor. 13 is not just a failure!*

3. Are you convinced of being a *less-than-Jesus-love person*?

B. Is there hope for *such loveless sinners*?

II. Love examined

A. The portrait of the 'young rich ruler' is like a good young Christian

1. His eagerness to partake in 'eternal life' is encouraging

2. He came to the right Person with his question

3. His thinking is wrong therefore his attitude and actions are horrible

a. observe his thinking about *how to be saved* (vs. 17)

b. how much of this thinking is alive in us?

B. Jesus' actions with the young ruler

1. His first answer (vs. 18) is teaching to us also

2. His method to expose him: *confront him with the law of love!* (vs. 19)

3. His aim is to teach him that *salvation by doing is impossible*

a. the young man's answer reveals his arrogant blindness (vs. 20)

C. Jesus' final stroke to cut his religious legs (vs. 21)

1. The Lord's command drove the truth into his conscience (vs. 22)

a. He demanded him to show his love without limits

b. He demanded him to become like Jesus (2 Cor. 8:9)

Examine ...

A. Has God exposed your inner picture this evening?

1. If so, how will you respond to Jesus' teaching?

B. Is there hope for such a loveless and guilty creature that I am?

1. There is: *Then Jesus beholding him loved him ...* (21a)

a. define Jesus' love (Greek *agapao*):

● *not a love of affection*

● *but a love of deliberate choice in pure devoⁿional love*

b. Who are the hardest to love: *young rich rulers!*

c. The young rich ruler was not the only one grieved: Luke 19:41-42

Some truths to ponder...

1. What according to 2 Cor. 4:3-4 has blinded us to the point that we cannot even see the glory of God as it is revealed in the Jesus Christ? Try to identify the details of the blinding aspects of our life.
2. Meditate through John 1:14-18. What was the glory of Jesus John saw and trace some instances in John's Gospel where John saw this glory?
3. Make John Owen and Samuel Rutherford's testimony your particular prayer petition. Owen wrote, "*We are never nearer Christ than when we find ourselves lost in a holy amazement at His unspeakable love.*" Rutherford added, "*Every day we may see some new thing in Christ. His love has neither brim nor bottom. In our fluctuations of feeling, it is well to remember that Jesus admits no change in His affections. Your heart's feeling is not the compass Jesus sails by.*"