

Title: Love Wins

Text: 1 John 3:11-24

Target: Love is more than a word; it is a continuous verb.

- I. **A Message of Acquaintance:** *“For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.”* (Vs. 11)
 - A. **Principle of Love:** *“heard from the beginning”*
 - B. **Priority of Love:** *“we should love one another.”*
- II. **A Murder because of Anger:** *“We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him?”* (Vs. 12a)
 - A. **Danger of Comparison:** *“Because his own deeds were evil and his brother’s righteous.”* (Vs. 12b)
 - B. **Deadliness of Covetousness:** *“And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering but for Cain and his offering he had no regard.”* (Genesis 4:5)
 1. **Guard your Heart:** *“sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”* (Genesis 4:7)
 2. **Guide your Heart:** *“Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?”* (Genesis 4:9)
 - C. **Discernment in Conflict:** *“Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you.”* (Vs. 13) *Matthew 5:22-24
 1. **Given Grace:** *“We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death.”* (Vs.14)
 2. **Give Grace:** *“Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.”* (Vs.15)
- III. **A Measurement of Acceptance:** *“By this we know love,”* (Vs. 16a)
 - A. **Physical Sacrifice:** *“...that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.”* (Vs. 16b)
 - B. **Material Supply:** *“But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him?”* (Vs. 17)
 - C. **Emotional Support:** *“Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”* (Vs. 18)
- IV. **A Matter of Acceptance:** *“By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him;”* (Vs. 19)
 - A. **Conviction of the Spirit:** *“for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.”* (Vs. 20)
 - B. **Confidence of the Spirit:** *“Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God.”* (Vs. 21)
 - C. **Counsel of the Spirit:** *“and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.”* (Vs. 22)
 - D. **Comfort of the Spirit:** *“Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.”* (Vs. 24)

Takeaway: If we only give grace to the deserving then it is not grace.