

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS

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JOHN S. TORELL

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PART 23: LOVE & CORRECTION

WHAT IS LOVE?

We should love others without being deceitful, reject evil and embrace goodness, care for one another with affection and treat others with respect. **Romans 12:9-10**

1. Jesus raised the bar to an incredibly high standard when He stated that we should love our enemies.
 - a. Jesus was not referring to an enemy army approaching with the intent to plunder and kill.
 - b. He wasn't speaking about a criminal breaking into your house and stealing from you.
 - c. He also wasn't referring to a rapist getting ready to rape your daughter.

Jesus was speaking about the regular people who might slander you, take advantage of you, gossip in church, or a nasty relative that done great harm. **Matthew 5:44-48**

2. Everyone is guilty of sin and that makes us worthy of death and an eternity in the Lake of Fire. Nevertheless, Jesus paid for our sins and saved us when He blotted them out and gave us eternal life in heaven.

Our debt ratio toward God is so great that any evil people have done toward us is miniscule in comparison. Jesus made this point with a parable. He did not say we had to socialize with such people who hurt us, but we should forgive them. **Matthew 18:21-35**

3. Jesus stated that only people who obeyed His commandments truly loved Him. Breaking God's commandments and living in sin is in fact rejecting the love of God. Christians who choose to ignore the commandments of Jesus actually hate their Lord and Savior. **John 14:21-24**
4. A Christian cannot justify hating anyone regardless of how badly you have been treated; Jesus said we must forgive them. **Matthew 5:21-26**

CORRECTION

Correction is a vital part of love. God loves us so much that He will use correction to bring us closer to Him and for us to abandon sin. **Hebrews 12:1-13**

As Christians, it is our duty to love people so much to the point that we are willing to correct them when we see they are going astray. **2 Timothy 3:16-17; 4:1-5; James 5:19-20**

If Christians are wise, they will be open to correction and instruction. **Proverbs 9:6-10**



SUMMARY

What kind of spiritual house are you building? Is your foundation built on sand or solid rock? **Matthew 7:24-27**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?