

"Life-Giving Love"

1 John 3.11-18

Different Points of Island - see 3 mountains  
Mauna Kea, Mauna Loa, Hualalai

DIFFERENT PLACES ON ISLAND - DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES - FROM AIR

1 JOHN - 3 GREAT TRUTHS - GOD IS LIGHT, GOD IS TRUE, GOD IS LOVE  
PRESENTED FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES AND EMPHASIS

PURPOSE - EXAMINE OURSELVES - "Signs of the Christian"  
If God is Light am I walking in the Light?  
If God is True am I walking in the Truth?  
If God is Love am I walking in Love?

JOHN'S PICTURE HAS NO GREY - EITHER BLACK OR WHITE  
Light/Darkness    Truth/Lies    Love/Hate    God/devil

3.11-18 SECOND GIVING OF THE SOCIAL TEST: DO WE HAVE LOVE?

TRANSITION

3.10c "neither does anyone who does not love his brother"

INCREASINGLY SERIOUS

2.10,11 Love - matter of Light and Darkness  
3.14,15 Love - matter of Life and Death

□1. Hatred of Cain□

□a. Origin□ "Cain belonged to the evil one"

vs. 12,8,10

John 8.44

HUNTER TOOK COVER IN A CAVE DURING A RAINSTORM  
AFTER DRYING OFF - DECIDED TO LOOK AROUND - SHINED HIS FLASHLIGHT  
Shocked - sharing cave with spiders, lizards, and snakes  
HE RAN BACK OUT INTO THE RAIN  
CANNOT RECOGNIZE THE EVIL AROUND US - SATAN & HIS DEMONS

□1) Good Parents□

ADAM AND EVE SINNED - RESTORED TO GOD - HOPE IN GOD'S PROMISES  
GOD'S THREAT OF DEATH FOR SIN WAS WITHHELD - GAVE THEM LIFE  
NEW LIFE - A SON - EVE "life giver" / CAIN "acquired" / RECEIVED

Genesis 4.1 "with the help of the Lord I have brought forth a man

LIT "here he is" / "I got him"

LIKELY SAW HIM AS THE DELIVERER WHO WOULD CRUSH SERPERNT'S HEAD

ALL OF THEIR LOVE - HOPES - PRAYERS - WERE WITH THIS BOY

SURELY THEY TAUGHT THEIR CHILDREN ABOUT GOD - JUSTICE AND MERCY

□2) Religious□

Genesis 4.3 "Cain brought fruits as an offering to the Lord"

NOT AN ATHEIST - OR EVEN AN AGNOSTIC - A WORSHIPPER OF TRUE GOD

TRouble WITH MANY "good, religious people"

BEAUTIFUL OFFERING - SOMETHING MISSING

2 Tim 3.5

WHAT ABOUT BLOOD? - SYMBOL OF FORGIVENESS?

□3) Faithless□

PERHAPS SOMETHING WRONG WITH GIFT / SURELY WRONG WITH THE GIVER

WARNED BY GOD

Genesis 4.7

ABEL COMMENDED FOR FAITH

Hebrews 11.4,6

□b. "Normal"□ v. 13

THE WORLD ARE CAIN'S DESCENDANTS - HIS HATRED LIVES ON IN IT

John 15.18,19, §

16.2

1 Peter 4.12-16

HATRED IS STILL THE WORLD'S CURRENCY

MARTYRS OF EARLY CHURCH - KILLED FOR THEIR FAITH IN CHRIST  
MORE MARTYRS IN 20th CENTURY THAN IN ALL CENTURIES COMBINED

□c. Deadly Results□

□1) Now□

v. 12b "Cain murdered his brother...his own actions were evil"

v. 15a "anyone who hates his brother is a murderer"

Matthew 5.21,22

MAN SAW LION - SLEEPING PEACEFULLY IN CAGE AT ZOO  
MAN TO ZOOKEEPER "He looks so peaceful, just a big version of my □  
cat at home, its a shame you have to put him in a cage"  
HE MAY LOOK LIKE YOUR HOUSE CAT - BUT THERE'S MURDER IN HIS HEART  
"you better be glad those bars are there"

BARS OF PREVENTION - Keep us from taking another's life  
Fear of arrest and shame - Penalty of the Law - Possible Death

HATRED IS THE ROOT MOTIVE OF MURDER

Calvin "we wish him to perish whom we hate"

God asks both - WHAT DID YOU DO? AND WHAT DID YOU WANT TO DO?

□2) Forever□ vs. 15b "no murderer has eternal life in him"

IS MURDER AN UNFORGIVABLE SIN? NO!

ISSUE NOT - can a murderer become a Christian

Jesus prayed for murderers to be forgiven

RATHER - CANNOT CONTINUE TO MURDER AND STILL BE A CHRISTIAN

Matt 5.22 EVEN HATRED "you will be in danger of the fire of hell"

Jude 11

Š1 Timothy 1.13

RESULT OF HATRED - TAKING ONE'S LIFE / OF LOVE - GIVING YOUR LIFE

□2. Love of Christ□

□a. Example□ v. 16 "this is how we know"

4.19

John 13.15,34

TWO MISSIONARIES - VILLAGE IN KOREA - NEVER BEFORE HEARD GOSPEL  
ALMOST ENTIRE VILLAGE GATHERED TO HEAR - UNTIL LATE AT NIGHT  
MISSIONARIES VERY TIRED - WENT TO SLEEP  
PEOPLE REMAINED- TALKING EXCITEDLY - MISSIONARIES COULD NOT SLEEP  
AT 2 A.M.- MISSIONARIES WENT OUT "why don't you go home & sleep?"  
"How can we sleep? You told us that the Supreme God is not an □  
evil spirit trying to hurt us, but a loving God who gave His Son □  
for our salvation, and if we turn from our sins and trust Him, we □  
will be delivered from fear and death. How can we sleep after a □  
message like this?"

□b. Evidence□ v. 17 "love of God in him"

CHUCH WOULD BE GREAT- IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE PEOPLE

John 13.35

CHRISTIAN WERE FEEDING STARVING PEOPLE IN SOMALIA & EVEN SERBIA  
LONG BEFORE THE US TROOPS GOT THERE

James 2.14-16

GOOD WORKS TRAVEL IN THE WAKE OF THE GOSPEL  
Mission hospitals - schools - orphanages -libraries- care centers

MOVES FROM THE GENERAL TO THE SPECIFIC

EASY TO SAY "I love everyone" / THAN "I love specific individual"

GREEK WRITER NAMED LUCIAN - NON-CHRISTIAN - OF XTIANS 2nd CENT  
"It is incredible to see the fervor with which the people of that □  
religion help each other in their wants. They spare nothing. □  
Their first legislator (Jesus) has put it into their heads that □  
they are brethren"

SELF-PRESERVATION - FIRST LAW OF PHYSICAL LIFE

SELF-SACRIFICE - FIRST LAW OF SPIRITUAL LIFEŠ

□c. Extent□ v. 18 "actions and truth"

LOVE WASN'T SOMETHING JESUS JUST TALKED ABOUT - OR PRAYED ABOUT

Ephesians 4.15

MAN PARKED CAR ON NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - LITTLE BOY CAME & ADMIRED

BOY TO MAN "where did you get this car?"

MAN "my brother gave it to me"

BOY "I wish/ MAN INTERRUPTS "you wish you had a brother like mine?"

BOY "NO, I wish I could be a brother like yours,  
my brother is crippled and has no way to get around"

James 1.27

OUR LOVE IS TO BE GENUINE AND CONSTRUCTIVE

EXAMPLES - ELDERLY, YOUNG MOTHERS, DIVORCE KIDS

□d. Eternal□ - NOTHING ETERNAL HAS A BEGINNING OR AN END

□1) Beginning□ v. 11

GOSPEL DOES NOT CHANGE - EITHER DOCTRINE - OR DUTY

2.24

Levit 19.18

□2) End□ v. 14a

BECOMING A CHRISTIAN IS NOTHING LESS THAN RESURRECTION

John 5.24