

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How has God demonstrated His love to mankind?
2. What are some ways that love can be demonstrated by person to person?
3. What effect does God's love have on people?
4. What effect does love have from person to person?
5. What is the real perfection of love?

SUMMARY:

God's love has been demonstrated so richly in the sacrifice of His Son upon the cross, becoming the propitiation for our sins, and drawing men to Himself through His tender love. The effect of this love upon a person is the most blessed power experienced in one's life. To be able to love one's brother, even though his ideas might differ somewhat from his own, is truly of God. To be able to live in this love, void of fear, with boldness, Christ-like, with love and devotion to God, is truly of God.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #1

October 2, 2011

Fourth Quarter

LOVE

LESSON TEXT: 1 John 4:7-21

LESSON SETTING: Written by John, probably from Ephesus.

TIME: Approximately 90 A.D.

I. THE DEMONSTRATION OF LOVE. 1 John 4:7-10

- A. Unchangeable. John 13:1
- B. Self-sacrificing. John 15:13
- C. Inseparable. Romans 8:35
- D. Manifested. John 3:16

II. THE EFFECTS OF LOVE. 1 John 4:11-16

- A. Perfection. Colossians 3:14
- B. Obedience. 1 John 2:5
- C. Assurance. Colossians 2:2
- D. Confession. Philippians 2:11
- E. God's Presence. Matthew 18:20

III. THE PERFECTION OF LOVE. 1 John 4:17-21

- A. Boldness. Hebrews 4:16
- B. Christ-likeness. 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 3:2
- C. Fearlessness. Isaiah 12:2
- D. Love to God. Psalm 116:1-2
- E. Brotherly Love. John 13:35; 15:12; Romans 12:9; 1 Peter 1:22

GOLDEN TEXT: HEREIN IS LOVE, NOT THAT WE LOVED GOD, BUT THAT HE LOVED US, AND SENT HIS SON TO BE THE PROPITIATION FOR OUR SINS.
1 John 4:10

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: 2 Chronicles 14:1-15

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: 1 Kings 15:1-24

QUARTERLY THEME: Kings and Prophets of Judah

TOPIC: ASA, A KING WHO SOUGHT GOD

INTRODUCTION:

King Asa was the third king to rule over Judah. Rehoboam, son of Solomon, ruled seventeen years. We read that Rehoboam forsook the Lord and by his fifth year had been disciplined by God. (2 Chronicles 12:1-2) Abijah, son of Rehoboam, was the second king, and we read of him that he continued in the sins of his father. (1 Kings 15:1-3) His reign only lasted three years. So twenty years after the death of Solomon, Asa began his reign. His reign was a good one because he did that which was good and right in the sight of the Lord. There were no wars for ten years until the vast Ethiopian army came against Judah. Asa called on God and trusted Him to fight the battle for Judah and the enemy was overthrown. Another era of peace prevailed over Judah for another 25 years. The Bible tells us that the heart of Asa was "perfect" all his days. (2 Chronicles 15:17)

May we too strive to have perfect hearts all our days. God will bless us too, just as he did Asa, if we have this same spirit and remove evil from our lives.

CENTRAL TRUTH: God's power is always available to the one who seeks to do God's will.

GOLDEN TEXT: . . . ***HELP US, O LORD OUR GOD; FOR WE REST ON THEE . . .***

2 Chronicles 14:11

King Asa, a man who did that which was right and pleasing in God's sight, did much to cleanse Judah of idolatry and to strengthen the nation. Eventually, evil forces came against Judah, an Ethiopian army of one million men. There was no human possibility of overcoming the army. King Asa called upon God for help. His cry was one of faith and confidence in God. The very fact that he trusted in God for deliverance from this great army is evidence of the kind of life he lived. Because he asked, fully expecting God to fight this battle for Judah, the way opened for God to take over and overcome the enemy.

Do we experience the power of God taking over in our battles of life? When we ask God for help do we fully trust Him to take over, or do we in our hearts hold a little room for us to figure out an answer, "just in case."

God wants us to commit our all to Him including all our needs, great or small. If we do this we will experience His richest blessing and help. May we learn to "rest" on Him.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF October 3 – 9

- M. *A Good King. 2 Chronicles 14:1-8
- T. *A Prayer Answered. 2 Chronicles 14:9-15
- W. A Nation Encouraged. 2 Chronicles 15:1-7
- T. A King Who Tried. 2 Chronicles 15:8-15
- F. A King Who Did Not Listen. 2 Chronicles 16:1-10
- S. A King Who Did Not Trust. 2 Chronicles 16:11-14
- S. Blessings of Serving God. Psalm 1

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