

**WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED LOVE?**  
**“God’s Love for Man”**  
**John 3:10-18**

**INTRODUCTION**

- A. The word “love” brings varied thoughts to different people. To some:
  - 1. An emotion that ignores all sins and differences.
  - 2. A cop-out for disobedience.
  - 3. The only command in God’s Word. All else must give way to “the law of love.”
    - a. Situation ethics.
- B. Even though the Greeks had four words for our word “love,” we will not approach it from a word study but from Biblical examples.
  - 1. W.E. Vine – *“Love can be known only from the action it prompts.”*

**I. OLD TESTAMENT TEACHINGS.**

- A. Blessings.
  - 1. Deut. 7:7-9, ***Chosen*** because of love.
  - 2. Ps. 103:9-13, ***Removes*** transgression, ***Has compassion***.
  - 3. 2 Sam. 7:22-24, ***Redeemed, Established***.
- B. Discipline through love.
  - 1. Neh. 9:26-31
  - 2. Jer. 15:1-7

**II. NEW TESTAMENT TEACHINGS.**

- A. Shown in Blessing.
  - 1. The greatest example: Jn. 3:16, *“For God so loved the world, that He **GAVE** His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”*
  - 2. Rom. 5:6-8, Christ ***died***.
  - 3. Eph. 1:3, ***Blessed*** us with all spiritual blessings (proceeds to list 7!).
  - 4. Eph. 2:1, 4-10, ***Made us alive***.
  - 5. Romans 8:31-39, ***Makes*** us conquerors.
- B. Shown in Discipline.
  - 1. Rev. 3:19, *“Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.”*
  - 2. 1 Cor. 11:27-32, the Lord’s Supper.
  - 3. Heb. 12:4-11

**CLOSING**

- A. Love is known only by actions.
- B. God shows His love to man by:
  - 1. Blessings and joy.
  - 2. Discipline and chastisement.
- C. God’s love did not, nor does it now, cause Him to overlook sins.
  - 1. But He has provided a way.
  - 2. Through Jesus Christ.