

The New Commandment

Pastor-Teacher Grant Castleberry

John 13:31-35

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John 13:31 – [31] *When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him.*

- What an INCREDIBLE thing to SAY.
- The CROSS is a place of SHAME. A place of IGNOMINY.
- Where he was crucified NAKED and MOCKED by the WORLD.
- Paul says it is folly to the Greeks and a stumbling block to JEWS.
- *BUT JESUS says that it is the DISPLAY of the GLORY of GOD.*

Certainly in the INCARNATION, JESUS was motivated by HIS love for us.

- John 10:11 – [11] *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.*
- Certainly the FATHER was motivated by His love for us. Romans 5:8 – [8] *but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*
- God LOVES His children with an INFINITE LOVE.
- YET, God’s LOVE for us is not based on our WORTHINESS, but the GRANDEUR of HIS GLORY.

But JESUS points us to something far GRANDER.

- JESUS POINTS us to the GLORY of GOD.
- The INFINITE BEAUTY of GOD.
- This is the essence of God-centered Christianity.
- Romans 11:36 – [36] *For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.*
- JESUS says that The GOAL of our REDEMPTION is the GLORY of GOD.
 - John 17:4 – [4] *I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.*
 - John 17:5 – [5] *And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.*
 - John 17:10 – [10] *All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them.*
 - John 17 :24 – [24] *Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me.*
- The GOAL of REDEMPTION is a people from every TRIBE, TONGUE, PEOPLE, and NATION will praise His NAME.
 - John 4:23 – [23] *... true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.*

Why make such a big deal about this?

- 1) *Jesus made a big deal about it.* This is what motivated the HEART of our LORD – the display of the GLORY of GOD.

- 2) *God's glory is at stake.* We want to be oriented to the TRUTH. Live God-centered lives. Lives that also magnify God.
- 3) *Our Joy is at stake!* When you keep GOD at the CENTER... your JOY is FULL.
 - Jonathan Edwards – “The happiness of the creature consists in rejoicing in God; by which also God is magnified ... the exalting of the heart in God’s glory, is one thing that belongs to praise.”

The Son’s Glory

John 13:31 – [31] *When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified,*

- Jesus said... NOW is the Son of Man glorified. In reference to the upcoming events.
- By GLORIFIED... we mean that the FULL EXPRESSION of His CHARACTER will be seen.
- John in John 1:14 – [14] *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the father, full of grace and truth.*

JESUS DISPLAYED HIS character on FULL DISPLAY at the CROSS.

- A) *He Accomplished Redemption for His People*
 - Galatians 2:13 – [13] *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”*
 - 1 Timothy 2:5, 6 – [5] *For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, [6] who gave himself as a ransom for all...*
 - The CROSS is where JESUS redeemed us from the CURSE of SIN.
 - The CROSS is where JESUS gave Himself as a Ransom for us all.
 - JESUS ACCOMPLISHED the most MARVELOUS thing that HAS ever BEEN accomplished.
- B) *He Defeated Satan*
 - Remember John 12:31 – [31] *Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.*
 - Jesus destroyed SATAN’S power of ACCUSATION against the saints.
 - Jesus said, “I saw Satan fall like lightning.”
- C) *He Demonstrated the Weightiness of God through His Obedience*
 - At the CROSS Jesus demonstrated His PERFECT OBEDIENCE to the FATHER all the way to the END.
 - The FIRST ADAM failed in OBEDIENCE to GOD. Israel failed in obedience to GOD.
- John 14:31 – [31] *but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.*
 - The LORD JESUS did not FAIL. Hebrews 5:8 – [8] *Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. [9] And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.*

The Father’s Glory

John 13:31b – [31b]

and God is glorified in him.

Moreover, the GLORY of the FATHER is on display as well at the CROSS. The CROSS tells us something very important about the CHARACTER of GOD.

- The FULL GAMET of GOD's ATTRIBUTES is SEEN.
- Of course this is GOD's INTENTION from the VERY BEGINNING of TIME.

- A) *The Cross Demonstrates the Father's Love*
 - John 3:16 – [16] *For God so loved the world that he sent his only Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.*
 - See Rom 5:8.
 - The CROSS shows the sweet wonderful, agape of GOD.

- B) *The Cross Demonstrates the Father's Righteousness.*
 - Righteousness refers to God's HOLY RULE.
 - Psalm 89:14 – [14] *Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne...*
 - Contrary to what many think, God will NOT violate His righteousness. He will not merely FORGET about SIN.
 - The CROSS. Romans 3:25 – [25] *This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.*
 - Every SIN that ever needed forgiveness was paid for in six hours on the CROSS.

- C) *The Cross Demonstrates the Father's Holiness*
 - As the SON was bearing our SIN, the FATHER turned His face, so-to-speak from the SON.
 - GOD will not be polluted with SIN.
 - On the CROSS, CHRIST BECAME the SIN CURSE. The FILTHY SIN that you've done, placed on CHRIST.
 - And JESUS cried out, "FATHER, FATHER, why have you forsaken me."

- D) *The Cross Demonstrates the Father's Faithfulness*
 - God had promised that His Son would be a sin-bearer.
 - Deuteronomy 7:9 – [9] *Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations...*
 - The CROSS is the PROOF that GOD keeps His promises.

- Luther – "That person does not deserve to be called a theologian who looks upon the invisible things of God as though they were clearly perceptible in those things which have actually happened. One deserves to be called a theologian, whoever, who comprehends the visible and manifest things of God seen through suffering and the cross.

John 13:32 – [32] *If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once.*

- The FATHER'S GLORY is the SAME GLORY as the SON'S GLORY.

The Son's Mission

JESUS now gives His disciples guidance about how this will be accomplished.

John 13:33 – [33] *Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.'*

- Jesus calls His disciples “little children,” a term that is only used for believers in the New Testament.
 - The “children of God” are those who are born again into God’s family.
 - John 1:12 – [12] *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.*
 - 1 John 1:12 – [12] *I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name’s sake.*
- Jesus is about to EMBARK on a MISSION that only He can partake of.
- He says, “Where I am going, you cannot come.”
- Jesus will TELL his DISCIPLES in John 16:32 – [32] *Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me.*
 - Jesus will endure what His disciples cannot endure. Hebrews 2:10 – [10] *For it was fitting that, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.*
 - Archeqos (the first one who goes before) – is a Founder or Pioneer. One who goes before.
 - JESUS CHRIST blazed the PATH into HEAVEN.
 - He is the only QUALIFIED ARCHEGOS.
 - He was the ONLY qualified one to do it.
 - Hebrews 12:2 – [2] *looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

The SON’s MISSION would NEED to be completed ALONE. Only He could complete this MISSION of GLORY.

The Disciple’s Mission

John 13:34 – [34] *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.*

- This is the COMMAND that is GIVEN to the DISCIPLES while they wait to JOIN our LORD.
- People ask, “How is it NEW?”
 - It’s NEW... 1) Because it’s a New Covenant COMMAND.
 - It’s NEW... 2) Because the LOVE is to MIRROR CHRIST’S LOVE (something that had not been previously seen).
 - It’s NEW... 3) Because the LOVE is specifically for one ANOTHER.

John 13:35 – [35] *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*

- JESUS says that the SUPREME MARK of the CHURCH is to be her LOVE.
- The CHURCH is to be primarily known JESUS says for its LOVE.
- Pink – “Love is the badge of Christian discipleship. It is not knowledge, nor orthodoxy, nor fleshly activities, but supremely love which identifies a follower of the Lord Jesus. As the disciples of the Pharisees were known by their phylacteries, as the disciples of John were known by their

baptism, and every school by its particular shibboleth, so the mark of a true Christian is love; and that, a genuine, active love, not in words but in deeds.”