

LOVE FOR FELLOW CHRISTIANS



*A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another;
as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.*

—John 13:34

The Lord Jesus told His disciples that He loved them just as the Father had loved Him. And now, following His example, we must love one another with the same love.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (v. 35). Christ later prayed, *"That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me"* (John 17:21). If we exhibit the love that was in God toward Christ, and in Christ toward us, the world will be obliged to confess that our Christianity is genuine and from above.

This is what actually happened in Bible times. The Greeks and Romans, Jews and heathen, hated each other. Among all the nations of the world, there was hardly a thought of love for each other. The very idea of self-sacrifice was a strange one. When the unsaved saw that Christians from different nations, under the powerful workings of the Holy Spirit, became one and loved one another, even to the point of self-sacrifice in time of plague or illness, they were amazed and said, "Behold how these people love one another!" (See John 13:35.)

Among professing Christians, there is a certain oneness of belief and feeling of brotherhood, but Christ's heavenly love is often lacking, and we do not bear one another's burdens or love others as heartily as we should. Pray that you will love your fellow believers with the same love with which Christ loves you. If we abide in Christ's love and let that love fill our hearts, supernatural power will be given to us to love all God's children. As the bond of love between the Father and the Son, and between Christ and His followers, is close, so must the bond of love be between all God's children.