



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – October 25, 2009

Heart to Heart...

Our Father loves us more than we can ever begin to imagine. Yet in His love, He will not allow us, His creation, to abuse or use Him in any form. His holy and righteous character won't allow that. In His love, He wants nothing more than for us to have a real, genuine, loving relationship to Him. In order for that to happen, that means we cannot determine the relationship. The relationship is determined by His loving and holy behavior.

Too many that were baptized into Christ are following the path of the world. They think like the world, talk like the world, set their minds on the things of the world and act like the world. That's what creates division and individualism. The world sees little need to worship God with the saints, much less follow in the steps of Jesus. Sometimes those for whom Christ died are choosing the world over God but in their heart they believe the Lord will save them in the end. This is called hardness of heart and deceived. Here we are, children of God whom God has set His love on and yet some spurn God's sacrificing love for them by turning to the world. They are more comfortable with the world, desiring the world over God. Sacrificing for the Lord is not part of their thinking.

The Hebrew writer warned God's people about their hardness of heart (Hebrews 3). After being warned, they continually provoked God to His face by complaining and have their mind set on the things of the world around them. It led God to swear that they would never enter His rest. God's love was moved by His holiness that He would not allow those He had saved to abuse Him in any fashion. That is love at its height! We just don't recognize what God's love really involves. They did not realize what was happening to them and we have it recorded for us to not follow in the same mind set. The only way we can continue to be saved and partakers in Christ our Lord is if we hold fast our assurance firm and not allow any of our mind and heart to follow, think and act like the world. The word should ring loud in our ears: "***While it is said, 'Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts, as when they provoked Me.'***" (Hebrews 3:15) Our Father loves us more than we can imagine but His love will not let us play the game of religion. We must be dedicated to His name and cause, completely surrendered or we will not make it. Think about it!!!

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