



MAY 11

Passage: 1 John 2:7-14

READ & DIG. Read 1 John 2:7-14

God's Word is important. Understatement of the year, right? But take a closer look. Here are some things that jump out to me.

OLD & NEW! (vv.7-8)

Take a look at what John is saying in these verses. He says that he's not writing about a new commandment, because it was given long ago, yet it is a new commandment. What in the world does he mean? What he's saying is that this commandment was given and affirmed in the Old Testament, but Jesus also taught it in the New Testament. What does this teach us? It shows us that this commandment is taught throughout all of scripture. It is meant for all of life. This commandment is central to be a Christian. Keeping it is one of the ways that Christians show the world the gospel even in the most uncertain and dark times. But what commandment is John referring to?

DARKNESS & LIGHT! (vv.9-11)

The commandment that he is referring to is the "love" commandment. John uses imagery in these verses of light/darkness. Take a look! **READ vv.9-11 AGAIN.** He says that you can't be in the light if you hate your brother. But on the flip side, if you love your brother, then the light is in you. Light and hate don't go together. To be in the light is to love your brother. It's to have the light of Christ shining through you while you're loving that person.

REMINDER! (vv.12-14)

In these verses it's easy to get confused as to what John is writing about, but it's easiest summed up in a reminder. He's reminding everyone of the confidence they have in God. He is writing to different believers, but he assures and reminds each one of the confidence they have in the Lord. The Lord and his word are sure! Here are his reminders:

- "Your sins are forgiven" (v12)
- "You know him, who is from the beginning" (v13)
- "You have overcome the evil one" (v13)
- "You are strong.... the word of God abides in you" (v14)

These are incredible promises that every Christian needs to be reminded of.

Apply & GO

So, what now? What do we do with this? Always remember. God's Word means what it means. There is no "what does this mean to you, and to you, and to you." That's wrong. The Bible means what it means. How we apply it may be different, specifically. It means what it means.

SO...let me ask you. What will you do after hearing this truth?

What can we learn about God? What can we learn about His Word?

What can we learn about the confidence we have in God and in His Word?

How will I walk in that today?