

"From a Heart of Love"

Text: John 13:12-20

I Thessalonians 2

I. The motive of the heart - vv. 1-5

II. The picture of the atonement - vv. 3-11

This week:

III. The instruction of the Savior - vv. 12-20

A) Christ's authority - our obedience - vv. 12-14
(Jn. 16:7, 13; Matt. 11:28-30)

B) Christ's example - our imitation - vv. 15-17

Emphasis of...

-vv. 12-14 = Christ's _____

-vv. 15-17 = Christ's _____

C) Christ's prophecy - our faith - vv. 18-20

Conclusion: Principles of Christian service

1) Serving others honors the _____ of Christ

2) Serving others is contrary to _____

3) Serving others develops the _____

"Growth of faith is seen by doing duties in a more spiritual manner, with more fervency; we put coals to the incense, from a principle of love to God. When an apple has done growing in bigness, it grows in sweetness; so thou performest duties in love and art sweeter, and come off with a better relish."

Thomas Watson (Puritan pastor: 1620-1686)

Sermon quotes:

A) Christ's authority - our obedience

Richard Phillips, *"The biblical model for true church growth is not a spiritual club but a gospel-centered community that is inspired in attitude and actions by the self-sacrificing grace of Jesus."*

From last week,

A. W. Tozer, *"The old cross is a symbol of death. It stands for the abrupt, violent end of a human being. ...The cross made no compromise, modified nothing, spared nothing; it slew all of the man, completely and for good. It did not try to keep on good terms with its victim. It struck cruel and hard, and when it had finished its work, the man was no more. ...In coming to Christ we do not bring our old life up onto a higher plane; we leave it at the cross."*

B) Christ's example - our imitation

William Hendriksen, *"...the smile of God which is upon such a person who is constantly doing these things so that humility is of the very essence of his character, will sooner or later be reflected in his heart, so that he will possess the peace of God which passes all understanding."*