



Love That Passes The Test

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1 John 3:11-18

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REVIEW — Why is John talking about love?

The Passage — A contrast of two kinds of people (vs. 4-10)

*“No one who abides in Him **sins**; **no one who sins** has seen Him or knows Him.... the one who **practices righteousness** is righteous, just as He is righteous;”*

The Point — This is how we know who we belong to

*“No one who is **born of God practices sin**, ... **by this the children of God and the children of the devil** are obvious...”*

INTRODUCTION — “... **nor** the one who **does not love** his brother.” (v. 10b)

LESSON — Love That Passes The Test 3:11-18

I. THE THEME OF LOVE — The Overview of the Passage v. 11

*“For **this is the message** which you have heard from the beginning, that we should **love one another**.”*

II. THE TEACHING ON LOVE — The Observations From the Passage vs. 12-18

The Negative Example — Cain (vs. 12-15)

- The Example — This is what love is **NOT** v. 12

*“Not as Cain, **who was of the evil one** and slew his brother. **And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother’s were righteous.**”*
(Cf. Genesis 4:1-16)

- The Exhortation — This is what you should **EXPECT** v. 13

*“Do not be **surprised** brethren, if the **world hates you.**”*

The Point — Murder is just the physical **ACT** of an inward sinful **ATTITUDE** (vs. 14-15)

The Positive Example — Christ (vs. 16-18)

- The Example — This is what love **IS** v. 16a

*“We **know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; ...**”*

- The Exhortation — This is what you should **EXHIBIT** v. 16b

*“... and we ought **to lay down our lives for the brethren.**”*

The Point — True love is not measured by what we **SAY**, but by how we **SACRIFICE**. (vs. 17-18)

Applying this to our lives ...