



02 AUGUST 2026 PM

1 John 2:7-11

TRIBE-5

= a close-knit community with shared identity

He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

1 John 2:9-10

INTRODUCTION

A DARK TENDENCY 2:7-11

1 John 1:5

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

are you tired of hearing this?

do you think you've 'got it'?

- as we move further in John's first epistle, we should be aware that there are no short-cuts in the Christian life

there are no Christian life hacks

ease and comfort are not promised to us

Hebrews 13:5

...for he hath said, I will never leave thee,
nor forsake thee.

THE CONCEPT OF NEW

in the Greek language, there are two words translated as *new*

new in relation to time (*neos*) = recent

new in relation to quality (*kainos*) = fresh

in this passage, John is telling us that the commandment he is writing about is not new to his listeners...they have heard this before

it is new in the sense that believers have a new understanding of it and how it is to be worked out in our daily lives

THE EMPHASIS ON LOVE

throughout this letter, John emphasized three words: *love*, *life*, and *light*...he states that these three words go hand-in-hand in the life of the believer

in three different sections of his letter, John gives us reasons why the Christian should love his brethren

God has commanded it 2:7-8

God's love lives in us 3:10-14

God loved us first 4:7-10

This commandment, old or new, should be understood by every believer

1. IT IS NEW BY EMPHASIS **verse 7**

Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

already, in **verse 3**, John emphasized our love for God by keeping His commandments

And hereby we do know that we know him,
if we keep his commandments.

cf John 14:15 If ye love me, keep...

keeping Christ's commandments proves salvation

in this verse, John takes us back to the start of Christianity with the example of Christ's life

...ye have heard from the beginning

contrast **John 1:1** and **1 John 1:1**

Matthew 22:34-40

when challenged on the finer points of the Law,
'What is the greatest commandment', Jesus pointed to these two:

love the Lord thy God...

love thy neighbor as thyself...

John 20:22

...Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

Romans 5:5

And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

1 Thessalonians 4:9

2. IT IS NEW IN EXAMPLE **verse 8**

Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

our example, of course, is Jesus Christ

John 15:12

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

love one another 12x in NT

Jesus loved His family

Jesus loved His followers

Jesus loved His foes

'Father, forgive them...'

with Him as our example, and the Holy Spirit living inside of us, we must model this love to the world

...the darkness is passing (verb tense)

Ephesians 4:17-32

the time for salvation is shortening

the time of maturity is growing

3. IT IS NEW IN EXPERIENCE **verses 9-11**

He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

hate = to abhor; to find utterly repulsive;
to reject entirely

as he has done so much already, John points out that it is one thing to SAY you love people

but we must 'put a face on it'

notice the **SAYING-DOING Principle** of First John:

1:6, 8, 10

2:4, 6, 9

now, let's gain some practical application...

the person in darkness is SIGHTLESS

he thinks he is in the light

this is self-justification

John 5:39 Search the scriptures...

the person in darkness causes STUMBLING

to himself...

to others

Romans 14:13 be a stumbling block

the person in darkness is STALLING

nothing grows in the dark

his eyes have adjusted to it

Philippians 1:9-10 abound...sincere