

M A C H A I R A

CHRIST COMMONWEALTH-COMMUNITY

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MACHAIRA

(Pronounced makh'-ahee-rah)

- Daily revelatory thoughts to sharpen you and to help you grow in deep spiritual understanding and knowledge.
- Scriptures for your daily meditation.
- Daily Christ-centered and apostolic-prophetic prayers.

Monday, 13th February, 2023

A New Commandment

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

John 14:15 (NASB1995)

During the last conversation with His disciples, Jesus shared some deep essential matters with them. These were things that will sustain them in the fellowship He has established with them. And He even gave them the promise of the Holy Spirit as their Helper, who is also going to bring the clarity of the things He has shared and also reveal more truth to them.

In John 17, we also see Jesus praying for His disciples. You will realize that, the last few hours Jesus had with His disciples were imbued with great truth. He didn't just speak words, He enriched them with a kingdom treasure chest of verities. This was why He had to admonish them to keep (delight, value, highly esteem, preserve, guard) His commandments. As we have established earlier, the commandments of Jesus are not lists of burdensome rules and regulations; they are life.

Take note: the things Jesus shared with His disciples in His last hours, were not things only meant for them. He was also speaking to those who shall believe in Him even after. Beloved, this includes

you and I.

Look at what He said in His prayer for His disciples within the same period:

"I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word"

John 17:9; 20

Do you believe in the Lord through the Word ministered? If your answer is "yes", then Jesus prayed for you and His commandments are also to you.

Hallelujah.

Now in the commandments Jesus gave His disciples, He specifically, spoke of a **"New Commandment"**.

Which is:

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35

Why did Jesus refer to this as a New Commandment?

Before the last hours of Jesus' conversation with His disciples, the Pharisees and the Sadducees, attempted several times to entangle Him with their questions. After they had failed at different attempts, they decided to ask another question;

*"But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, Master, **which is the great commandment in the law?** Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.***

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Matthew 22:34-40 (NKJV)

The law mentioned here, is clearly the law of Moses. One thing you should know is that, there is a

difference between the Law of Moses and the Commandments of Jesus.

The law of Moses is not necessarily bad or evil (Romans 7:7). However, the law of Moses is the knowledge of sin (Romans 3:20) and exposes man's weakness. It did not make anything perfect (Hebrews 7:19). This is because the Law demanded obedience but did not supply the ability of obedience. This was why the law was burdensome. Peter called it unbearable yoke (Acts 15:10).

However, the commandments of Jesus are the speaking of His life. Jesus' commandments are first a supply of life and ability. From our previous episodes, we see that, we are not the source of love. The love which we have towards God, is dependent on God's love for us. Which means God's love is the ability of our love. Meanwhile, the Old covenant (which was a shadow of things to come through Christ [Hebrews 8:5; Hebrews 10:1]), couldn't make supply of love because of its terms.

You will understand this by comparing these two:

1. The second great commandment of the law says:

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*"Thou shalt love thy neighbour **as thyself**"*

2. The new commandment of Jesus says:

*"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; **as I have loved you, that you also love one another.**"*

Do you see the premise of each commandment?

The commandment of the law of Moses is dependent on **YOURSELF Effort**. However, the New commandment of Jesus is dependent on **HIS LOVE**. Beloved, understand that, you cannot walk in the richness of His love towards others until you **BEHOLD AND ENJOY THE LOVE OF CHRIST**. Live by the new commandments of Jesus and not by the commandments of the law.

Glory to God!

DIG DEEPER

(1 John 2:8-10; Ephesians 5:2; John 15:12,13,17)

WE PRAY

That we shall increase in the knowledge of the love of Christ, so we may love others as He has loved us.

BIBLE READING IN THE YEAR 2023

Day 14: Job 38-39

DECLARE THESE WORDS:

Thank you Lord for your unconditional love. I enjoy the unconditional love more and more. By this love, I am enabled to love all I cannot be intimidated by any condition. I walk in the love of God according as the Lord has loved me.

Hallelujah!!!