

*If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. John 15:10*

## Store In My Heart

### Revelation 20:14-15

Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

What a sad thought to consider. The fate of all who are not ready to enter Heaven is to be cast into the lake of fire with all of the wicked and their leader. It should impress each of us with a desire to make certain that we are prepared for that last day. Only those who obey the will of the Lord will have their names written in the book of life. It is the one "roll book" where everyone should want their name to be found.

No matter why your name is missing from the book, you will suffer the same fate as all the wicked. Make sure you are doing what is needed to be listed in the book of life.



# "If You Love Me..."

## Dan Henderson

Many times over the years I have heard the Gospel written by the Apostle John referred to as the Gospel of love. It does not take very long to understand this reference once one begins to study the book of John. This gospel is filled with stories and events that impress upon the reader the love that God has for his creation. From the beginning through the ministry of Jesus and his ultimate expression of love for mankind in the death on the cross, the love God has for man and his strong desire for man to return to Him is evident.

In this gospel we read of the sorrow Jesus had for those who did not listen and the strong rebukes for those who not only failed to serve God but also actively sought to prevent others from serving properly. We see His anguish as he looked upon the people of Israel and knew their hearts were not seeking to be with God, but to attain status among the nations once again. He literally wept over the city of Jerusalem as He considered their wayward path.

We also see His love for those who were closest to him. The sorrow at the death of Lazarus is evident in his actions even to those who refused to accept Him as the Messiah. We see His love and concern for the disciples and especially the twelve apostles as he taught them in preparation for His return to Heaven. John alone reveals much of the teaching that took place on that final night before His death. We read the prayer He made to God regarding the well-being and

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We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ  
1512 Tanner Street  
Malvern, AR 72104  
(501) 332-8806

## Find Us Online

preacher@tannerst.com

tannerst.com

FB @TannerStCoC

## For Our Information

Clifton Hurst is in ICU on a ventilator at 70% oxygen. He is heavily sedated. His meds are being adjusted to deal with several issues.

Gloria Hurst is still feeling the effects of the virus and is very concerned for Clifton.

Joyce Venable is feeling a little better and physical therapy is helping also.

Judges 17 at 5 this evening.

No class for this Wednesday evening.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

protection of those who would take up His work in the midst of persecution and opposition after His return to the Father.

We see the expression of love toward his mother as he hung on the cross. His love even for those who killed him is seen in his prayer of forgiveness and his mercy on those who died with him. His love and concern is still evident as He appears to the Apostles after the resurrection. He wants them to believe and was willing to take the steps necessary to strengthen their faith. Even His plea to Peter for leadership among the brethren shows His love and care for both the Apostles and those who would listen to their message of salvation.

We also read a few things about our love for Him. As He speaks to His Apostles on that final night, He tells reminds them of what it means to love Him. We all remember *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."* **John 14:15** and *"Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me."* **John 14:21** With these statements and the surrounding context, Jesus gives us no escape from our responsibility to do the will of God. If we are not willing to give Him our complete submission we cannot say that we truly love Him. He expects our obedience in all things and tells us here that such obedience is an expression of our love for Him.

He also tells us that such submissive love will bring us into a relationship with him and the Father that will allow them to live with us all our days on earth. It is this love in obedience that reveals both the Father and the Son in our hearts and minds. If we desire to feel the presence of God in our life we must submit to the Word that He has left to guide us through love. This love will be evident in all our dealings here on Earth for they will be controlled by love of God. It will show in how we treat one another and especially our relationships with family and brethren. When we truly love God we will show our love for others. If we cannot love those who are with us here how can we possibly love God who cannot be seen here. (**1John 4:20**) Our love for God, like God's love for us, is seen in how we deal with others. John makes it clear that God loves us. Now, do I love God?



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!