

“The Limit Of Love”
John 14:19-24

Introduction:

1. Let's Open Our Bibles:
 - To John 14 - Where We Are Getting Close To:
 - The End Of Jesus' "Discourse With His Disciples" In:
 - The Upper Room - Which Took Place:
 - On "The Same Night In Which He Was Betrayed!"
 - And - As Jesus Was:
 - Sharing Both Challenges & Comfort:
 - To His Disciples!
 - It Is Clear That:
 - Some Of The Things He Said To Them:
 - Were Not So Clear:
 - To Their Ears!
2. And - That Is Why:
 - So Far That Night:
 - Questions Were Raised By The Disciples!
 - First - By Peter!
 - Then - By Thomas!
 - And - After That - By Philip!
 - Well - This Morning:
 - We Will Find Yet Another Question:
 - Asked By Another One Of His Disciples:
 - With The Name Of Judas!
3. But - Even Though:
 - Some Of Their Questions:
 - Would Be Answered:
 - In Time!
 - Jesus Did Want To:
 - Clarify Some Things:
 - To Them!
4. And - That Is What We Find:
 - In The Verses We Come To Today!
 - In 14:19-24 - Where:
 - Jesus Wants To Clarify Some Things:
 - About His Love:
 - For His Disciples! And:
 - About His Disciples Love:
 - For Him!
5. And So - After Jesus Tells Them:
 - In 14:18 - "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you!"
 - He Adds - 14:19-24 - "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. / At that day ye shall know that I [am] in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. / He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. / Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? / Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. / He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me!"
6. Now - We've Already Heard:
 - With The Disciples:
 - That Jesus Was About To Leave & To Depart:
 - Not Only From Them - But:
 - From The World Itself!
 - But - He Wanted His Disciples To Know:
 - That - Just Because He Was Leaving Them:

- Did Not Mean That:
 - He Didn't Love Them!
- And So - After Telling Them:
 - In 14:18 - "I Will Come To You!"
 - Jesus First Wanted To Clarify:

1. *The Expression Of His Love:*

- Toward Them!
 - And So - He Tells Them In 14:19-20:
 - What His "Coming" To Them:
 - Meant!
- "I Will Come To You" Meant:
 - That - He Would Bring To His Disciples:
 - A Greater Look!
 - Because - 14:19a - "Yet A Little While, And The World Seeth Me No More; But Ye See Me!"
 - Of Course - In Just A Very "Little While" From When:
 - Jesus Said These Words:
 - He Would Leave This World:
 - Through Death!
 - And - The World Of Unbelievers:
 - Who Killed Him:
 - Would No Longer See Him!
 - However - In Just A Very "Little While" After That:
 - Jesus Would Return To The World:
 - Through His Resurrection!
 - But - Only For His Disciples:
 - To See Him!
 - And - If We Fast-Forward To:
 - The Last Chapters Of John:
 - This Is Exactly What Happened!
 - And - For 40 Days:
 - The Disciples Were Able To:
 - See Jesus & Speak With Jesus & Even Eat With Jesus!
 - And - Jesus Wanted Them:
 - To See Each Other Again:
 - Because He Loved Them!
 - And - This Greater Look:
 - Would Be Another Expression:
 - Of His Love!
- But - "I Will Come To You" (14:18) - Also Meant:
 - That - Jesus Would Bring To His Disciples:
 - A Greater Life!
 - Because - In 14:19b - Jesus Adds:
 - "Because I Live, Ye Shall Live Also!"
 - Of Course - Jesus Could Be:
 - Referring To The Life:
 - That He Would Live:
 - After His Resurrection!
 - But - Already In John:
 - Jesus Told Us That:
 - He Is Life Itself!
 - To The Jews - In 6:35:
 - "I Am The Bread Of Life!"
 - To Martha - In 11:25:
 - "I Am The Resurrection, And The Life!"
 - And - Even To The Disciples - In 14:6:
 - "I Am The Way & The Truth & The Life!"

- And Later - To John - In Revelation 1:18:
 - "I Am He That Liveth, And Was Dead; And, Behold, I Am Alive For Evermore!"
- So - The Nature & Essence:
 - Of Jesus Is Life!
 - And - Because He Lives:
 - He Gives Hope To Those Who Have Faith In Him & Follow Him:
 - That - "Ye Shall Live Also!"
- So - With Barely A Breath In Between:
 - Jesus Speaks About His Coming:
 - First - At His Resurrection!
 - And Then:
 - Second - At His Return!
 - When They Themselves Will Be Raised From The Dead:
 - And "Live Also!"
- Because - Jesus Wanted Them:
 - To Have Hope In Him:
 - Because He Loved Them!
 - And - This Greater Life:
 - Would Be Another Expression:
 - Of His Love!
- But - "I Will Come To You" (14:18) - Also Meant:
 - That - Jesus Would Bring To His Disciples:
 - A Greater Light!
 - Because Then - In 14:20 - Jesus Says:
 - "At That Day Ye Shall Know That I Am In My Father, And Ye In Me, And I In You!"
- One Of The Reasons:
 - Jesus Came Into This World:
 - Was So That Those Who Believe In Him:
 - Might Know Him!
 - And - Especially That:
 - 14:11 - He Is In The Father & The Father Is In Him!
- And - Though This Truth:
 - Was & Still Is:
 - Hard To Understand With:
 - Our Finite Minds!
 - Yet - The Relationship:
 - Between God The Father & His Son:
 - Is The Basis For:
 - Our Relationship With Jesus!
- Because - He Also Came:
 - So That You Might Know That:
 - When You Believe In Jesus Christ:
 - You Are In Him & He Is In You!
 - That Is - You Are:
 - United With Jesus Christ:
 - In Such A Way:
 - That You Can Have A Similar Relationship With God The Father That Jesus Has! Not The Same - But Similar!
- And Jesus Says - "In That Day!"
 - You Will "Know" This!
 - What "Day" Is Jesus Talking About?
 - Was It The Day Of:
 - His Resurrection?
 - I Don't Believe So:
 - Because - The Disciples Still Struggled In Their Faith!
 - Or - Is It The Day Of:
 - His Return?

- I Believe This Is What Jesus Was Speaking Of!
- Because - 1 John 3:2:
 - “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is!”
- So - One Day - We Will “Know” The Lord:
 - In A Way That We Never Have:
 - Here In This Life & World!
 - And - That Is Something:
 - To Look Forward To!
 - But - That Doesn’t Mean That:
 - You Can’t Grow In Your Knowledge:
 - Even Now!
 - Because - You Can!
 - Until “That Day” Comes:
 - You Can Grow In Relationship With Christ - Through His Revelation!
 - By Learning More About The Illustrations & Examples Of That Relationship!
 - In Chapter 15:
 - Jesus Is The Vine - And:
 - You Are The Branches!
 - Jesus Is The Shepherd - And:
 - You Are His Sheep!
 - Jesus Is The Head - And:
 - You Are His Body!
- And So - Even Until “That Day” Comes - Jesus Wanted:
 - Them & You To Know Him:
 - Because He Loves You!
 - And - This Greater Light:
 - Is Just Another Expression:
 - Of His Love!
- So - Once Again:
 - Jesus Expresses The Fulness Of His Love:
 - For All Of His Disciples!
 - Both Then & Now!
 - To Clarify & To Prove That:
 - There Is No Limit:
 - To His Love!
 - Even As Annie Johnson Flint Once Wrote:
 - His Love Has No Limit, His Grace Has No Measure, His Power No Boundary Known Unto Men, For Out Of His Infinite Riches In Jesus, He Giveth And Giveth And Giveth Again!”
 - And So - The Purpose Of:
 - The Greater Look & Life & Light:
 - That He Offered To Them - And:
 - That He Offers To You:
 - Is To That You Might Have:
 - A Greater Love:
 - For Him!
 - Which Is Why In 14:21:
 - Jesus Transitions Once Again:
 - From His Expression Of Love:
 - For Us:
 - To Our Expression Of Love:
 - Toward Him!
 - “He That Hath My Commandments, And Keepeth Them, He It Is That Loveth Me!”
 - So - Jesus Basically Repeats:
 - What He Said Back In 14:15!
 - Because - Jesus First Expressed:
 - His Love For Us - So That:

- We Might Express Our Love:
 - For Him!
- And So - This Leads Us To:
 - A Second Thing That Jesus Wanted To Clarify! And That Is:

2. *The Enjoyment Of His Love:*

- By Us!
 - Is There A Limit:
 - To God's Love:
 - For His People? For Those Who:
 - Believe In Christ & Belong To Christ?
 - On God's Part:
 - There Is No Limit!
 - Which Is Why In Ephesians 3 - The Apostle Paul Can Talk About:
 - "The Breadth, And Length, And Depth, And Height" - Of The Love Of Christ - "Which Passeth Knowledge!"
 - And - This Is Why Jesus:
 - Expressed His Infinite & Eternal Life:
 - By Telling Us About:
 - The Greater Look & Life & Light We Will Receive From Him!
 - However - On Our Part:
 - There May Be A Limit:
 - To Our Own Experience & Enjoyment:
 - Of His Love!
 - Which Is Why In Ephesians 3 - Paul's Desire:
 - Is For Us To - "Be Able To Comprehend With All Saints What Is The Breadth, And Length, And Depth, And Height; And To Know The Love Of Christ, Which Passeth Knowledge, That Ye Might Be Filled With All The Fulness Of God!" (3:17-18)
 - So - Not Only Does Jesus:
 - Want You To Express Your Love To Him:
 - Because He First Expressed:
 - His Love For You!
 - And - How Can You Express:
 - Your Love For The Lord?
 - 14:21 - "He That Hath My Commandments, And Keepeth Them, He It Is That Loveth Me!"
 - But - Jesus Also Wants You:
 - To Enjoy God's Love For You!
 - And - How Can You Enjoy:
 - His Love For You?
 - In The Same Way!
 - 14:21 - "He That Hath My Commandments, And Keepeth Them, He It Is That Loveth Me!"
 - Now - We Already Looked At:
 - What It Means To:
 - "Keep" The Lord's "Commandments!"
 - It Means To Obey His Word!
 - In Faith!
 - In Following!
 - In Fellowship!
 - But - What Does Jesus Mean:
 - When He Says:
 - "He That Hath My Commandments!"
 - It Means That:
 - His Commands Become:
 - Your Commands!
 - That Is - They Don't Just Work:
 - From The Outside-In:

- But From The Inside-Out!
- It Means That:
 - When You Love The Lord:
 - Because He First Loved You:
 - You Will Look For His Commands - & - Learn More About His Commands - In Order To Keep His Commands!
- It Means That:
 - You Will Daily “Seek His Precepts!” (119:94)
 - “Out Of Love And Affection For Them, To Know More Of Them, The Mind And Will Of God In Them!” (Gill)
- And - When You Do & As You Do:
 - You Will Enjoy The Love Of God:
 - In Ways You Never Have Before!
 - You Will Enjoy More Of:
- The Experience Of His Love!
 - Which Is Why In 14:21 - Jesus Adds:
 - “And He That Loveth Me Shall Be Loved Of My Father!”
 - Now - When You First Hear This:
 - It Sounds More Like:
 - God Will Love Us Only If & When We First Love Him!
 - But - That Is The Opposite Of:
 - What John Tells Us In 1 John 4:19:
 - “We Love Him, Because He First Loved Us!”
 - So - What Can This Mean?
 - “He That Loveth Me Shall Be Loved Of My Father!”
 - We Need To Remember That:
 - God’s Love Is Infinite:
 - Like God Himself!
 - His Love Is Infinite:
 - In Time - Which Is Why:
 - He Can Say In Jeremiah 31:3 - “Yea, I Have Loved Thee With An Everlasting Love: Therefore With Lovingkindness Have I Drawn Thee!”
 - And - His Love Is Infinite:
 - In Degree - Which Is Why:
 - Paul Can Tell Us In Romans 8:38-39 - That “Neither Death, Nor Life, Nor Angels, Nor Principalities, Nor Powers, Nor Things Present, Nor Things To Come, Nor Height, Nor Depth, Nor Any Other Creature, Shall Be Able To Separate Us From The Love Of God, Which Is In Christ Jesus!”
 - So - Since God’s Love Is Infinite:
 - John 14:21 Can Only Mean:
 - That - As You Grow In Your Love & Obedience To The Lord:
 - You Will Be Able To Enjoy Fresh Experiences Of His Love:
 - In Your Life As His Child!
 - So - The Foundation & The Fruit:
 - Of Your Love Is:
 - Always God’s Love!
 - Do You Want To Enjoy:
 - God’s Love? Then Grow:
 - In Your Love For Him!
 - Because - “He That Hath My Commandments, And Keepeth Them, He It Is That Loveth Me!” (14:21)
 - But - The Lord Doesn’t Stop There!
 - As More Incentive - Jesus Offers:
- The Exhibition Of His Love!
 - In The Rest Of 14:21 - Where He Says:
 - “And I Will Love Him, And Will Manifest Myself To Him!”
 - Once Again - Jesus Does Not Mean:
 - That You Must First Love Him:

- So That You Can:
 - Earn His Love For You!
- Because - That's Impossible!
 - You Can Only Love Him:
 - Because He First Loved You!
- But - Even Though:
 - You Can't Earn His Love:
 - You Can Enjoy His Love:
 - More & More In Your Walk & Relationship With Him!
- Because - As You Grow:
 - In Your Love & Obedience To The Lord:
 - You Will Be Able To Enjoy Fresh Exhibitions Of His Love:
 - In Your Life!
 - Isn't This What Jesus Did:
 - For His Disciples:
 - When He Came Back To Them:
 - At His Resurrection!
 - Isn't This What Jesus Will Do:
 - For All Of His People:
 - When He Comes Back For Us:
 - At His Return?
 - But - This Is Also What Jesus Does:
 - In The Meantime!
 - Even - In Times In Which We Live!
 - Jesus "Manifests" His Love To Us Now:
 - Through The Presence Of His Holy Spirit!
 - Which Is Why Jesus Said:
 - To The Church In Laodicea:
 - In Revelation 3:20 - "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me!"
- Do You Want To Enjoy:
 - The Love Of Christ:
 - In Fresh Exhibitions & Manifestations?
 - Then Grow In:
 - Your Love For Him!
 - Because - "He That Hath My Commandments, And Keepeth Them, He It Is That Loveth Me!" (14:21)
 - But - The Lord Doesn't Even Stop There!
 - He Continues To Offer:
- The Expansion Of His Love!
 - Which Is What We Find Next In:
 - 14:22-23 - "Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? / Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him!"
 - Once Again - One Of His Disciples:
 - Interrupts Jesus With A Question Of His Own!
 - This Time - "Judas - Not Iscariot!"
 - And - Judas Was Still Hung Up On:
 - The Mechanics Of How:
 - Jesus Could Show Himself:
 - To His Disciples & Not:
 - To The World!
 - After All - Wasn't That:
 - What The Messiah:
 - Was Supposed To Do?
 - Well - In 14:23:
 - Jesus Answers Judas' Question:
 - In His Own Way!

- Not With The Answer:
 - Judas Wanted - But With The Answer He & The Other Disciples Needed!
- But This Time - Jesus Promises:
 - An Expansion & Enlargement Of Our:
 - Experience & Enjoyment:
 - Of His & His Father's Love!
 - An "Immersive Experience!"
 - 14:23b - "My Father Will Love Him, And We Will Come Unto Him, And Make Our Abode With Him!"
- The Greatest Experience That:
 - You Will Have Of God's Love:
 - Is When "The Tabernacle Of God" Will Be "With Men!" - And When - "He Will Dwell With Us, And We Shall Be His People, And God Himself Shall Be With Us, And Be Our God!" (Revelation 21:3)
- But - Even Though This Is What We Have:
 - To Look Forward To In The Future:
 - This Is Also True:
 - Right Now - Through The Presence Of The Holy Spirit!
 - Through The Spirit:
 - God Has Come To Us - And:
 - Abides With Us!
- And - If You Want To:
 - Experience & Enjoy That Love:
 - In An Immersive & Expansive Way:
 - Then - Grow In Your Love For Him!
 - Because - "If A Man Love Me, He Will Keep My Words!" (14:23)
 - But - There's Just One More Thing:
 - That Jesus Wants To Add About His Love! And That Is:
- The Exclusiveness Of His Love!
 - Because - Just As There Will Be Evidence:
 - If You Believe In & Love Him!
 - There Will Also Be Evidence:
 - If You Don't!
 - So - According To 14:24a:
 - "He That Loveth Me Not Keepeth Not My Sayings!"
- The Only Way:
 - For You To Know That:
 - You Love The Lord - And That:
 - The Lord First Loved You:
 - Is What You Do With:
 - His Word & Words!
- And So - Do You Really Want:
 - To Enjoy The Fulness:
 - Of God's Love?
 - Then - Remember That:
 - It Is Reserved For Those:
 - Who Truly Love Him & Keep His Commandments!
- Again - This Does Not Mean That:
 - You Can Earn God's Love:
 - In Any Way!
 - You Can Only Love God:
 - Because He First Loved You - And:
 - Awakened Love For Him:
 - In Your Heart!
 - But - You Can Enjoy:
 - More & More Of His Love:
 - As You Love Him & Keep His Commandments!

Conclusion:

1. And - As Jesus Ends 14:24:
 - “The Word Which Ye Hear Is Not Mine, But The Father’s Which Sent Me!”
 - Which Means That:
 - These Words About Love:
 - Are True!
 - About God’s Love:
 - For You! And:
 - About Your Love:
 - For God!
2. Jesus Came Into This World:
 - To Clarify:
 - God’s Love For You:
 - Even As A Sinner!
 - To The Point That:
 - He Even Died For You!
 - And - All He Wants Is For You:
 - To Believe In Him:
 - And His Love:
 - In Order To Be Saved!
 - There Is Nothing You Can Do:
 - To Earn His Love!
 - His Infinite & Eternal & Boundless Love!
 - You Must Just Believe It - And Receive It!
 - There Is No Limit:
 - To The Expression:
 - Of God’s Love:
 - For You!
3. But - Jesus Also Came Into This World:
 - To Clarify:
 - How You Can Enjoy:
 - More & More Of His Infinite Life!
 - Because - Even Though There Is No Limit:
 - To The Expression Of God’s Love:
 - There Can Be A Limit:
 - In How You Experience God’s Love:
 - In Your Life!
 - So - How Can You:
 - Enjoy the Love Of The Lord:
 - More & More In Your Heart & Life?
 - So That You Can Experience:
 - What Paul Describes In:
 - Romans 5:5 - As:
 - “The Love Of God Is Shed Abroad In Your Heart?”
4. 14:15 - “If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments!”
 - Because This Is The True Word Of God!

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