**Loving Our Neighbors**

**Listening to the Apostle of Love**

**God’s Victorious Love**

Victory is exclusive to the victor.

**Acts 20:28-32** - *Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified….*

**I John 2:18-19** - *Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.*

**I John 3:10-11** - *By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: (please note there are only two families—the family of God and the devil) anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother. For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another…*

**1 John 5:19-21** - *We know that we are of God, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. Little children, guard yourselves from idols.*

**I. There is ONE real war between TWO kingdoms occurring on earth for humanity**

The ONE battle…

A. Concerns the knowledge of God and knowing Him (truth)—The Kingdom of God

B. Is sourced in opposition to God from Satan (error)—The Kingdom of Satan/the world

**Deuteronomy 32:16-17** - *They made Him jealous with strange gods; with abominations they provoked Him to anger. They sacrificed to demons who were not God, to gods whom they have not known.*

**I Timothy 4:1** - *But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.*

**2 Corinthians 10:5** - *We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.*

C. Has no neutral ground

**II. There are many real tests that force every soul to regularly choose**

**III. There is Only One Victor—Jesus Christ (1 John 4:2)**

Why?

A. Jesus Christ is the “True knowledge of God”

Thus there is only ONE test of victory/truth in the ONE WAR

B. “Jesus” (God the personal Savior from Satan’s captivity of sin and death) “Christ” (the anointed promised human) “has come in the flesh” (really and truly—He was seen, heard, and touched by the apostles in actual history)

Resulting in ONE WAY OF life in the Kingdom of God in contrast to the way of Satan

C. Growing Love like Jesus Christ