Love As a Sign of Life (Pt. 4)
1 John 3:11-24

I. Required by the Lord’s Command (11)

II. Absent from an Unbeliever’s Heart (12-13)

III. Crucial for a Believer’s Self-Examination (14-18)

   A. The Evidence of Love (14-15)

   B. The Example of Love (16)

   C. The Expression of Love (17-18)

      1. An Illustration of Practical Love (17)

      2. The Command for Practical Love (18)

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IV. Essential to the Believer's Assurance (19-24).
    A. Loving Others Produces Assurance of Salvation (19-20).
        1. Love Provides an Objective Proof of Salvation (19a).
        2. Love Provides a Practical Tool for Assurance (19b-20)
            a. How? (19b) – We can use it to assure our heart.
            b. When? (20a) – Whenever our heart condemns us.
            c. Why? (20b) – God knows more than our hearts.

God Is Greater Than Our Heart & Knows All Things

1. God knows that the condemnation of our hearts is sometimes false.
2. God knows that He has forgiven the sins our hearts condemn us of, and that we are still His children.
3. God knows that our active love for other believers proves we've been born again in spite of the sins that condemn us.

Two Crucial Lessons

1. “Stop listening to yourself and talk to yourself.”
2. Assure your heart when it’s condemning you with the divinely inspired tests in 1 John.