

To Love as He Loved

Jn 13:35 —Our Master did not expect His disciples to love as He loved, did He? Did He really expect the world to be able to distinguish His disciples from other people? He wouldn't have expected these things without *knowing* Himself what He would have to do in order that they could have what He had — this was His Spirit. Then they could love as He loved.

He would have expected the impossible if He expected them to love as He loved, without His *doing* what He had to do in order to give them what He had, which enabled Him to love them as He did. He was a human being, but He had the Holy Spirit, even the love of God in His heart. Rom 5:5 says that this love has been poured out into the hearts of all *disciples*. “All men will know that you are my disciples if you have this same love for one another that I have had for you” (Jn 13:35).

We can only love as he loved because He commands us to. This is just the same as a prophet can only speak prophecy into existence by His command. Only if He commands them to prophesy will He cooperate with their word. We can only love if He commands us. Only those who are commanded have the power to love as He loved. Only they have received His love and His Spirit. They will be distinguished (Mal 3:18) in every place where He lives. There is where His disciples live (Jn 12:26). There they serve Him and are honored by the Father. “If anyone serves me, let him follow Me, and where I am there My servant will be also; and whoever serves Me will be honored by My Father.”