

A WEEKLY WORD MAY 15TH, 2022

By Lois Drover

Acts 11:1-18 • Psalm 148 • Revelation 21:1-6 • John 13:31-35

JOHN 13:34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 13:35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

How hard is it to love everybody? I have thought about this at varying times of my life and decided that on my own I cannot love everyone.

Jesus says He loves everyone? I asked myself, "Does that mean the criminals, the evil people, the cruel, the murderers? " Yes, it does. If He could wash the feet of the man who was to betray Him, he could love him.

So, how do we love everyone?

If you are like me, you have been betrayed and hurt by people whom you loved dearly. Can we still love them? I find that very difficult, but with the grace God provides to me, I find I am able to pray for them. If I can pray for them, I can forgive and learn to love them again. If I don't I am falling into Satan's trap of offence and revenge. We say we can be indifferent to people, neither love them or hate them, but that is sitting on the fence of indecision. You can choose to go either way, and Jesus expects us to go His way, to love as He loves us. So really, if you are a follower of Jesus, according to verse 35 above, we have to learn to love everyone, warts and all!

Psalm 148:13 Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.