

Today, we'd like to see the title of "Greater than our heart" in the book of 1 John 3:13-24.

To Online Word's people on the earth, we'd like to suggest 3 Questions.

Q1. In verse 20, " For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things," what does it mean?

Q2. In verse 22, "And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight," what does it mean?

Q3. In verse 24, "Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us," what does it mean?

(Background)

(Matthew 22:34-40)³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵ Then one of them, a lawyer, asked *Him a question*, testing Him, and saying, ³⁶ "Teacher, which *is* the great commandment in the law?"³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is *the* first and great commandment. ³⁹ And *the* second *is* like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

(1 John 1:6-7)- If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

(1 John 2:5) But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him.

(1 John 3:1) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

(Text)

<p>¹³ Do not marvel, my brethren, if <u>the world hates you</u>.</p>	<p>1= the world (the secular system not to allow Christianity or God, belonging to Satan) hates you (because the world does not belong to God ¹ John 15:18-19; 17:14; 13:20)</p>
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¹ John 15:18-19 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before *it hated* you" ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.: 17:14 I have given them Your word: and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.; 13:20 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me."

<p>¹⁴ We know that we have passed <u>from death to life</u>, because <u>we love the brethren</u>. <u>He who does not love his brother abides in death</u>.</p> <p>¹⁵ Whoever <u>hates</u> his brother is <u>a murderer</u>, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.</p> <p>¹⁶ By this we know love, because <u>He laid down His life for us</u>. And <u>we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren</u>.</p> <p>¹⁷ But <u>whoever has this world's goods</u>, and <u>sees his brother in need</u>, and <u>shuts up his heart from him</u>, <u>how does the love of God abide in him?</u></p> <p>¹⁸ My little children, <u>let us not love in word or in tongue</u>, but <u>in deed and in truth</u>.</p> <p>¹⁹ And <u>by this</u> we know that <u>we are of the truth</u>, and shall <u>assure our hearts before Him</u>.</p> <p>²⁰ For <u>if our heart condemns us</u>, <u>God is greater than our heart</u>, and <u>knows all things</u>.</p>	<p>14= from death to life (from spiritual death – anyone who does not abide in Christ, i.e., non-born again Christian – to life – of the Christian); He who does not love his brother abides in death (because God is love ²<i>1 John 4:16</i>; <i>John 13:35</i>)</p> <p>15= hates... a murderer (a matter of heart, ³<i>Mat 5:21-22</i>; <i>Heb 12:15</i>)</p> <p>16= He laid down His life for us (Jesus' crucifixion for us); we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren (⁴<i>John 15:13</i> the highest level of love – how about practically lower levels?)</p> <p>17= (see the needy people; ask the Lord of whatever given by the Lord & your heart to be willing or not – prove up your love with your deed ⁵<i>James 2:14-17</i>)</p> <p>18= let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed (work or action) and in truth (then the deed belongs to truth – the word of God to love neighbor as yourself)</p> <p>19= by this... we are of the truth (by this deed... we belong to that word of God); shall assure our hearts before Him (shall have confidence before God)</p> <p>20=Q1 if our heart condemns us (if I don't assure our hearts before Him, I don't have confidence before God --- your thought that you deeds caused by the love are much shorter than God's love or your sometimes failure caused by the weakness of your flesh; then how rotten, how unworthy, how depraved, or how undeserving we are! ⁶<i>1 Kings 8:27</i>; <i>Romans 7:18</i>); God is greater than our heart (God's heart to give His son for us is much</p>
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² *1 John 4:16* And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. *John 13:35* By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

³ *Mat 5:21-22* "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' ²² But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.; *Heb 12:15* looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

⁴ *John 15:13* Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

⁵ *James 2:14-17* What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? ¹⁷ Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

⁶ *1 Kings 8:27* "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!; *Romans 7:18* For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but *how* to perform what is good I do not find.

<p>²¹ Beloved, if <u>our heart does not condemn us</u>, we have <u>confidence toward God</u>.</p> <p>²² And <u>whatever we ask we receive from Him</u>, because <u>we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight</u>.</p> <p>²³ And <u>this is His commandment</u>: that we should <u>believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another</u>, as He gave us commandment.</p> <p>²⁴ Now <u>he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him</u>. And <u>by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us</u>.</p>	<p>greater than our heart to do the deed caused by the love ⁷John 3:16, i.e., God is greater than our heart, on the basis of His work for me, not my work for Him; or the righteousness of Jesus Christ, not my righteousness); knows all things (God is omniscient!)</p> <p>21= if our heart does not condemn us (if we assure our hearts before God);... confidence toward God</p> <p>22=Q2 whatever we ask (within God or not contrary to God's word ⁸Mat 7:7; 21:22; John 15:7) we receive from Him; because we keep His commandments (two greatest commandments – love God with all your heart + love your neighbor as yourself – i.e. within His word); do those things that are pleasing in His sight (do those things for His pleasure)</p> <p>23= this is His commandment... believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ (that's the work of God; thereafter, the Spirit in you works to please Him ⁹John 6:28-29); love one another (the 2nd greatest commandment)</p> <p>24=Q3 he who keeps His commandments (2 greatest commandments – love God with all your heart + love your neighbor as yourself); abides in Him, and He in him (it shows mutual intimate relationship, i.e., live in Christ as Christ – the Spirit of Christ – lives in you); by this (by this keeping His commandments); by the Spirit whom He has given us (the spirit is the earnest or guarantee of our inheritance of the kingdom of heaven ¹⁰Eph 1:13-14; Gal 2:20)</p>
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⁷ John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

⁸ Mat 7:7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.; 21:22 And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.;" John 15:7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

⁹ John 6:28-29 Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?"²⁹ Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

¹⁰ Eph 1:13-14 In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee [the earnest] of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory; Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me..