

First John 3:11-15

- God's seed not only produces consistent holy/righteous living, but also a love for other members of God's family (John 13:35).
- 1) We need a reminder of earlier teaching—3:11-13 ¹¹ *For* [ὅτι] (verifying 3:10) *this is* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *the message* [ἀγγελία] *that you^{pl} heard* [aor. act. ind. ἀκούω] *from* [ἀπό] *the beginning* [ἀρχή] (of your Christian life; cf. 2:1),
 - a) Stated **positively**, what did we hear about what we should do—3:11 (namely) *that* [ἵνα] *we should be loving* [pres. act. subj. ἀγαπάω] *one another*.
 - i) Though there are times when believers do not love as they ought.
 - b) Stated **negatively**, what we were told not to do—3:12-13
 - i) Historically, Cain did not love—3:12 ¹² *Not as Cain*, (only OT reference in book)
 - (1) Cain's source—*who was* [impf. act. ind. εἰμί] *of* [ἐκ] *the evil one* [πονηρός] (cf. John 8:44)
 - (2) Cain's actions—*and slaughtered* [aor. act. ind. σφάζω] *his brother*. (cf. Genesis 4:8)
 - (a) *And for what reason* [χάριν τίς] *did he slaughter* [aor. act. ind. σφάζω] *him?*
 - (i) *Because* [ὅτι] *his* (Cain's) *works* [ἔργον] *were* [impf. act. ind. εἰμί] *evil* [πονηρός],
 - (ii) *and the ones of his brother* (Abel) *were righteous* [δίκαιος]. (cf. Genesis 4:1-8)
 - ii) Presently, the world does not love—3:13 ¹³ *Do not be surprised* [pres. act. impv. θαυμάζω], *my brothers, if* [εἰ 1st class condition] *the world is hating* [pres. act. ind. μισέω] *you^{pl}*. (like Cain did Abel)
 - (1) Cf. Matthew 5:11-12; John 15:18-21; 2nd Timothy 3:12; 1st Peter 4:13
- 2) We need to embrace the importance of loving one another (stated as a chiasm)—3:14-15
 - a) Stated **positively**—[A]—¹⁴ **We** (emphatic) *know* [pf. act. ind. εἶδω] *that* [ὅτι] *we have* (permanently) *transferred* [pf. act. ind. μεταβαίνω] *out of* [ἐκ] *death into* [εἰς] *life* [ζωή], *because* [ὅτι] *we are loving* [pres. act. ind. ἀγαπάω] *the brothers*. (cf. John 5:24)
 - i) Stated **negatively** [B]—*The one characterized by not loving* [pres. act. ptc. ἀγαπάω] *the brother is residing* [pres. act. ind. μένω] *in death* [θάνατος].
 - (1) This is his/her original state in which they remain in darkness and death.
 - ii) Stated **positively** [B]—¹⁵ *Each one characterized by hating* [pres. act. ptc. μισέω] *his brother is* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *a murderer* [ἀνθρωποκτόνος] (like Cain),
 - (1) Cf. Matthew 5:21-22
 - b) Stated **negatively**—[A]—*and you^{pl} know* [pf. act. ind. εἶδω] *that* [ὅτι] *each murderer* [ἀνθρωποκτόνος] *is not having* [pres. act. ind. ἔχω] *life eternal residing* [pres. act. ptc. μένω] *in him*.