

**When God's Word Is Ignored**

*"You shall love your neighbor..."*

- Neighbor – A fellow member of the covenant community

*"... and hate your enemy"*

- An inference from partially understanding and applying God's word

**The Commonality of Love** - *"If you love those who love you..."*

- Even "my enemy" knows how to love their own

- No reward for doing what is commonplace

**A Difficult Command To Love**

*"Love your enemies..."*

Our view of those we are to love needs to broaden to God's view

Loving my enemy doesn't mean I condone their behavior

*"... and pray for those who persecute you"*

- Hard to remain angry with someone I'm praying God's blessing for
- Prayer puts feet to faith, believing God can and will work in the situation

*"So that you may be sons of your Father who is in Heaven"*

- Because I am God's child, I will live and love as God does
- God doesn't limit blessings to His own, even enemies receive good
- A picture of God's salvific grace available to any who would believe

**The Heart of Love** – *"...be perfect, as your Heavenly Father is perfect"*

A command

A goal

A promise

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*"You shall love your neighbor..."*

- Neighbor – A \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_

*"... and hate your enemy"*

- An \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ understanding and \_\_\_\_\_ God's word

**The Commonality of Love** - *"If you love those who love you..."*

- Even "my enemy" knows how to love \_\_\_\_\_

- No \_\_\_\_\_ for doing what is \_\_\_\_\_

**A Difficult Command To Love**

*"Love your enemies..."*

Our view of those we are to love needs to \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Loving my enemy \_\_\_\_\_ mean I \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_

*"... and pray for those who persecute you"*

- Hard to \_\_\_\_\_ with someone I'm praying God's \_\_\_\_\_ for
- Prayer puts \_\_\_\_\_ to faith, believing God \_\_\_\_\_ work in the situation

*"So that you may be sons of your Father who is in Heaven"*

- Because I am God's child, I will \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_
- God doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ blessings to His own, even \_\_\_\_\_ receive good
- A picture of God's \_\_\_\_\_ available to any who would \_\_\_\_\_

**The Heart of Love** – *"...be perfect, as your Heavenly Father is perfect"*

A \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_