

The Letters of John



Class 3 – I John 2:9f

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another”
(Jhn 13:34-35)

Hate has a blinding effect! (vs. 9-11)

- Hate’s malicious feelings keep us from seeing the light of God’s Word
- Hate’s animosity toward others causes us to stumble through life.
- Hate’s negative passions keep us from seeing where we are going and what is important.

Especially if it is a brother...

- A brother has a common **Master** (Matt 23:10)
- A brother has a common **origin** (Eph 4:32)
- A brother has a common **work** (1 Cor 3:8)
- A brother has a common **Father** (Eph 4:6)



CHILDREN, YOUNG MEN, FATHERS

Who are these three groups?

- It could be literal (in which case, these commands include infants, exclude women, and exclude elderly men without children)
- It is more likely figurative language representing three stages of Christianity.

CHILDREN ARE RECENT CONVERTS



Like newborn **infants**, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation (1 Pet 2:2)

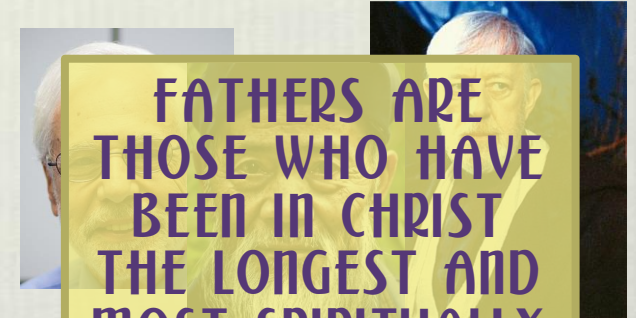
YOUNG MEN ARE IN THE MOST PHYSICALLY PRODUCTIVE STAGE OF THEIR SPIRITUAL LIFE



The glory of **young men** is their strength... (Pr 20:29)

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, **act like men**, be strong. (1 Cor 16:13)

FATHERS ARE THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IN CHRIST THE LONGEST AND MOST SPIRITUALLY MATURE



... but the splendor of **old men** is their gray hair. (Pr 20:29)

A wise son **hears his father's** instruction... (Pr 13:1)

THE TEACHINGS FOR EVERY STAGE

CHILDREN

You are already forgiven for Christ's glory and the effects are with you right now. (perfect tense)

You came to know the Father and do know Him. (perfect tense)

YOUNG MEN


You did overcome and are overcoming Satan (perfect tense).

You are strong (active) and the Word is abiding in you (active)

FATHERS

You came to know Him [Jesus] and you do know Him. (perfect tense)

Repeat of the first statement. Important emphasis!

A satellite view of the Earth from space, showing the Americas. The landmasses are heavily cracked with deep, dark fissures, symbolizing a broken or corrupted world. The oceans are a deep blue, and some white clouds are visible.

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (1 John 2:15)

LUST OF THE FLESH

PRIDE OF LIFE

LUST OF THE EYES

IT IS THE LAST HOUR...

Hour = any definite time, point of time, moment

And he cometh the third time, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: it is enough; the **hour** is come; behold, the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. (Mk 14:41)

For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same **hour** what you ought to say (Lk 12:12)
the master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an **hour** he does not know, and will cut him in pieces and put him with the unfaithful. (Lk 12:46)

And he sent forth his servant at **supper time** to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. (Lk 14:17)

Jesus says unto her, "Woman, what have I to do with thee? Mine **hour** has not yet come."
(Jhn 2:4)

And this, knowing the season, that already it is **time** for you to awake out of sleep: for now is salvation nearer to us than when we *first* believed. (Rom 13:11)

**'HOUR' can be a literal hour, a moment in time, a regular season, or even
an entire age.**