

Title: **A New Commandment**

Text: **John 13**

### **(I) CONTENT OF THE NEW COMMANDMENT**

*“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another...*

*By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” **John 13:34-35***

#### **1. A Commandment**

#### **2. A Commitment to love one another as a mark of His disciples**

### **(II) CONTOURS OF THE NEW COMMANDMENT**

#### **1. A Statement of Love for those truly “His Own”**

*“...having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.” **John 13:1***

a) A Love that Distinguishes

*“...having loved His own...” **John 13:1***

b) A Love that is Distinctive

*“...He loved them to the end.” **John 13:1***

c) A Love that Discerns

*And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon’s son, to betray Him” **John 13:2***

*“For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, ‘You are not all clean.’” **John 13:11***

*“I do not speak concerning all of you, for I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, ‘He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.’” **John 13:18***

#### **2. A Sadness that accompanies Love**

*“When Jesus had said all these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me.’” **John 13:21***

a) Troubled in spirit

b) Teaching faithfully to the end

c) Tenderness of heart that will experience sorrow

### **3. A Separation of ways that is inevitable**

a) Love that is taken for granted

*“Jesus answered, ‘It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it.’ And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him.” **John 13:26-27***

- i) Friendship given
- ii) Fellowship afforded

b) Love that is dishonoured

*“Having received the piece of bread, he then went out immediately. And it was night” **John 13:30***

- i) Receiving but not reciprocating appropriately
- ii) Fulfilling a personal and hidden agenda

c) Love that is replaced with evil

- i) Evil thoughts
- ii) Evil words
- iii) Evil deeds

### **(III) CONTEMPLATION OF THE STATE OF OUR HEART**

#### **1. What is the true state of our heart?**

#### **2. An assessment of our heart’s love for the Lord Jesus**

- a) Do we appreciate His deep and enduring love?
- b) Do we appreciate His friendship and fellowship?
- c) Do our hearts grieve at the merest thought of betraying the Lord Jesus?
- d) Do we have a heart of love that is discerning?

#### **3. A Renewal of our heart of love for Jesus**

- a) In grateful reciprocation (We love Him because He first loved us)
- b) In obedience (To love one another with great discernment)