

The Big Idea: Simply stated, there’s no one to whom the light and warmth of our love should not reach; not since Jesus said to love even our enemy.

I. A three word description of the sermon to this point

- A. (This is a picture of his life) JESUS
- B. (This is where the focus of his work takes place) INSIDE
- C. (This is the likelihood of success apart from the HS) IMPOSSIBLE

II. Love instead of hate

A. A DISTORTED concept v. 43

1. What the Old Testament TAUGHT

- Exodus 23:4-5
- Leviticus 19:17-18
- Proverbs 25:21

2. What the PHARISEES taught

- Love your neighbor = ISRAELITES
- DROPPED the statement “as yourself”
- HATE the enemy

3. A necessary observation: the biblical concept of love is not divorced from the concept of JUSTICE and TRUTH

Love and justice are not INCOMPATIBLE

B. A DISTINCTIVE characteristic v. 44

1. DEFINING love

- Eros
- Storge
- Phileo
- Agape

2. A DIVINE capability vs. 45-47

- The EXTENT
- The DISPLAY

C. A DIVINE work v. 48

1. DEFINED

2. REALIZED

III. What we take away...

Who in your life do you view as your enemy?

What would God call on you to do?

What action can you take to express God’s love to this person?