

1 John 2:3-11

Keeping God's Commandments

What ideas or insights has 1st John 2 given you?

Now by this we know that we have come to know God: if we keep his commandments. The one who says "I have come to know God" and yet does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in such a person. But whoever obeys his word, truly in this person the love of God has been perfected. By this we know that we are in him. The one who says he resides in God ought himself to walk just as Jesus walked.

Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word that you have already heard. On the other hand, I am writing a new commandment to you which is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. The one who says he is in the light but still hates his fellow Christian is still in the darkness. The one who loves his fellow Christian resides in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in him. But the one who hates his fellow Christian is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

How would you summarize this passage?

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How would you describe knowing God?

.....Does it show?

How do you know you know?

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**The one who says he is in the light but still
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The one who says "I have come to know God" and yet does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in such a person.

The one who says he is in the light but still hates his fellow Christian is still in the darkness.

But the one who hates his fellow Christian is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

The one who says "I have come to know God" and yet does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in such a person.

The one who says he is in the light but still hates his fellow Christian is still in the darkness.

But the one who hates his fellow Christian is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

**If you discern someone is like this,
What do you do?**

2:7 Beloved, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word which you have heard.

a. **Brethren, I write no new commandment to you ... a new commandment I write to you:** The commandment John wrote of was at the same time both **old** (in the sense that it was preached to them their whole Christian lives) and **new** (in the sense that it was called the *new commandment* by Jesus in [John 13:34](#))

**"I give you a new commandment—to love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.
Everyone will know by this that you are my disciples
if you have love for one another."**

John 13:34-35

i. The **new commandment** to love that Jesus spoke of in John 13:34 was really new for several reasons. One of the most important reasons was that Jesus *displayed* a kind of love never seen before, a love we were to imitate.

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What are some other reasons?

Love like Jesus loves!