



Text: John 15:1-10

Title: Abide in His Precepts

Introduction: The secret to joy for any people is to follow the precepts....to obey the commandments of our Lord....or to Abide in Precepts of our Lord. A Nation which violates the Word of God, will not prosper with real joy. “Righteousness exalteth a nation.”

Note – America, has been blessed by a heritage rich in scripture.

Illustration –

Patrick Henry: *“It cannot be stated too strongly or too loudly that America was founded by Christians with faith in Jesus Christ.”*

John Q. Adams: *“The highest glory of the American Revolution is that we joined together government with the principles of New Testament Christianity.”*

Note – The more we allow God’s word to be removed from society, the less joy and love prevails.

- A Family which violates or ignores God’s Word will not prosper.
- A Christian which violates the Word of God will not prosper.

Josh 1:8

1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Note – 3 Products of Abiding in His Precepts:

- I. **Abiding in His Precepts Proves Our Love – 14:15**
 - A. **Our Love For Christ – 14:23-24**

Note – If a man love me, He will keep my words.



Series: Abiding in Christ

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1. Baptism – Displays my love – “Why get baptized?” – It shows obedience’s love.
2. Service from My Heart Proves My Love.

Turn to: John 21:15-17

Illustration – *Phileo* (Fond) –vs- *Agape*

Note – Christianity in the 90’s has become very surface – we talk the talk but don’t walk the walk.

Illustration – Many today should hear the words of Jesus found in **Luke 6** – “*why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?*”

Note – Keeping the Lord’s commands proves my desire is not only to be a partaker of His grace, but also to partake in His Holiness.

Note – Everyone loves the Promises, but a true disciple loves the commands and does not consider them grievous...

Illustration – Jesus Christ, God in the Flesh, kept the Father’s commandments, as our example.

II. Abiding In His Precepts Provides Assurance In Our Hearts

Note – “Ye shall abide in my love.”

A. **Assurance in His Love** – we inwardly will sense that we are His...

1. Each act of obedience deepens my walk.
2. Each act of disobedience dulls my conscience.

Illustration – In the last 50 years we have witnessed the disintegration of the American Home. – The insecurities are carried from generation to generation. These “insecurities” also invade our relationship with God...

Many people, “Don’t Feel Saved” – they have doubts.

Note – Sin + disobedience compounds doubt.

But, keeping His commandments helps us to abide in the confidence of His love.

1 John 2:3 – We do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

B. Assurance Builds Maturity –

1 John 2:5

5 But whoso keepeth His word, in Him verily is the Love of God perfected, hereby we know that we are in Him.

Note – Perfected = matured

Illustration – The love in my heart is perfected through my life, as I abide in His precepts...

Note – This is God's goal – the word maturing into my life!

Illustration – Thy Word have I hid in my heart....that I might not sin against thee! Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman...

Illustration – Fascinated by the story of Captain Scott O. Grady: June 2nd – Flying on an F-16 over Bosnian no-fly-zone – Blown out of sky by Serb forces (SA-6 missile). As plane disintegrated – He pulled the eject lever and parachuted to Serb held territory. Now, all he had was his faith in God and his recall of the commands. For the next 6 days he covered his ears with his gloves, buried his face in the dirt, and survived on insects, grass, and rain water.... Finally on the 6th night – he radioed to an F-16 overhead – and within hours Marines rescued him.....

Note – Each of us will experience times when we are shot down – but if we abide in His Precepts – we can have assurance that we will prevail!

III. Promotes a Loving Spirit

Note – Abiding in His Precepts causes my love for Him + others to grow.



A. Love For One Another – vs. 18

John 13:34

34 A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Note – If we want love and respect in our society, lets get God’s word back!

Illustration – 1980 Court Case – (Ring –vs- Grand Fulk School Dist.) – Posting the Constitution was deemed unconstitutional – “If the students read them, they might obey them.”

Note – If we want a loving spirit in our homes and churches, get to the Word of God!

Conclusion – Abiding in His Precepts....

1. Proves Your Love – Not talking one thing and doing another.
2. Provides Assurance in Your Heart.
3. Promotes a Loving Spirit... May God help us to keep his commandments.