

# SAVED TO LOVE

**THROUGH THE LIVING AND ABIDING WORD OF GOD TO LOVE THE FAMILY OF GOD**

**BUT THE GOAL OF OUR INSTRUCTION IS LOVE FROM A PURE HEART**

AND A GOOD CONSCIENCE AND A SINCERE FAITH.

(1 TIMOTHY 1:5 NASB)

**THIS IS MY COMMANDMENT,  
THAT YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS  
I HAVE LOVED YOU.**  
(JOHN 15:12 ESV)

**SO THEN, AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY,  
LET US DO GOOD TO EVERYONE, AND  
ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO ARE OF  
THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH.**  
(1 TIMOTHY 1:5 ESV)



**NOW THAT YOUR OBEDIENCE TO THE TRUTH HAS PURIFIED YOUR SOULS,  
YOU CAN HAVE TRUE LOVE FOR YOUR CHRISTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS.**

SO LOVE EACH OTHER DEEPLY WITH ALL YOUR HEART.

(1 PETER 1:22 NCV)

## OUTLINE ... (1 Peter 1:22–2:3 ESV) Saved to Love: Purified by the Gospel for Sincere, Brotherly Love

### 1. LOVE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST FROM A PURE HEART ... Obeying the truth of the gospel purifies our soul and makes us able to love one another from a pure heart, 1:22-25.

- (1 Peter 1:22–25 ESV) Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, 23 since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 24 for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, 25 but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

**Schreiner ...** Both of these translations appear to understand “purified”, a perfect participle, as referring to conversion. The perfect tense of the participle supports this view, signifying a past action that has ongoing consequences. [Schreiner, T. R. (2003). *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (Vol. 37, p. 92). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.]

#### A. Our souls were (and continue to be—Gk perfect tense) purified by our obedience to the truth of the gospel.

- (1 John 3:23 ESV) And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
- (Galatians 2:5 ESV) To them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you.
- (Ephesians 1:13 ESV) In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.
- (Colossians 1:5 ESV) Because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of

the truth, the gospel.

- #### B. Our souls were (and continue to be—Gk perfect tense) purified through the living and abiding word of God ... that we may love with a sincere brotherly love ... that we may love earnestly from a pure heart ...

### 2. REMOVE THE CONTAMINANTS FROM OUR DIRTY HEARTS ... The truth of the living and abiding word of God directs us to rid ourselves of the sins of loving from an impure heart, 2:1.

The person who is saved by the living and abiding word of God will now be able to love by and according to the living and abiding word of God and will be able to overcome the sin of loving from an impure heart

- (1 Peter 2:1 ESV) So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.
- (Colossians 3:7–8 ESV) In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. 8 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.
- (Ephesians 4:31–32 ESV) Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.
- (Titus 3:3 NIV) At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.
- (James 1:21 NIV) Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

(1 Peter 1:14–16 ESV) As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

Got Milk?

### 3. **LONG FOR AND GROW UP BY THE PURE, UNADULTERATED WORD OF GOD**

... The person with the purified soul and the pure heart will have a strong desire to grow up in the goodness of the Lord through obedience to the pure spiritual milk of God's living and abiding word, 2:2-3.

- (1 Peter 2:2-3 ESV) Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— 3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- (1 Peter 2:2 NASB95) Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation,

The truly saved person will have an intense desire for God's word to be active in his or her life.

2:2 ... What is the spiritual milk for which believers are to long? The word "pure" functions as a contrast to the deceit (dolos) believers are to put aside (v. 1), and the term refers to that which is unadulterated and uncontaminated. Contaminated milk produces sickness and even death, but this milk is health giving and pure. [Schreiner, T. R. (2003). *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (Vol. 37, p. 100). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.]

Love for and delight in God's Word always marks the truly saved. [MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2004). *1 Peter* (p. 95). Chicago: Moody Publishers.]

Striving to eliminate sins is prerequisite to sustaining the desire for God's Word. Clinging to sins drives one in the opposite direction from the truth that exposes and confronts sin and demands righteousness. [Ibid. (p. 97).]

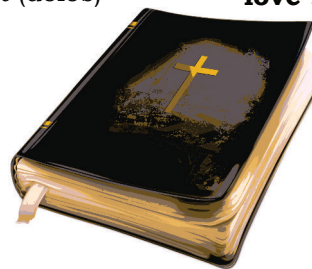
**Long for** is an imperative verb that commands believers to strongly desire or crave something ... it expresses an intense,



recurring, insatiable desire or passion. [Ibid. (pp. 98-99).]

### **LONG FOR ... LOVE GOD'S COMMANDMENTS ...**

- **(Psalm 119:33-40 NLT) ... I long to obey your commandments ...** Teach me your decrees, O LORD; I will keep them to the end. Give me understanding and I will obey your instructions; I will put them into practice with all my heart. Make me walk along the path of your commands, for that is where my happiness is found. Give me an eagerness for your laws rather than a love for money! Turn my eyes from worthless things, and give me life through your word. Reassure me of your promise, made to those who fear you. Help me abandon my shameful ways; for your regulations are good. I long to obey your commandments! Renew my life with your goodness.
- **(Psalm 119:41-48 ESV) ... I find my delight in your commandments, which I love ...** Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, your salvation according to your promise; then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me, for I trust in your word. And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth, for my hope is in your rules. I will keep your law continually, forever and ever, and I shall walk in a wide place, for I have sought your precepts. I will also speak of your testimonies before kings and shall not be put to shame, for I find my delight in your commandments, which I love. I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love, and I will meditate on your statutes.
- **(Psalm 119:73-80 NLT) ... Now give me the sense to follow your commands ...** You made me; you created me. Now give me the sense to follow your commands. May all who fear you find in me a cause for joy, for I have put my hope in your word. I know, O LORD, that your regulations are fair; you disciplined me because I needed it. Now let your



unfailing love comfort me, just as you promised me, your servant. Surround me with your tender mercies so I may live, for your instructions are my delight. Bring disgrace upon the arrogant people who lied about me; meanwhile, I will concentrate on your commandments. Let me be united with all who fear you, with those who know your laws. May I be blameless in keeping your decrees; then I will never be ashamed.

- **(Psalm 119:97–104 ESV) ... Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.** Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts. I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word. I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.
- **(Psalm 119:129–136 ESV) ... My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law ...** Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them. The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. I open my mouth and pant, because I long for your commandments. Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your way with those who love your name. Keep steady my steps according to your promise, and let no iniquity get dominion over me. Redeem me from man's oppression, that I may keep your precepts. Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes. My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law.
- **(Psalm 119:161–168 ESV) ... my heart stands in awe of your words ...** Princes persecute me without cause, but my heart stands in awe of your words. I rejoice at your word like one who finds great spoil. I hate and abhor falsehood, but I love your law. Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous rules. Great peace have those who

love your law; nothing can make them stumble. I hope for your salvation, O LORD, and I do your commandments. My soul keeps your testimonies; I love them exceedingly. I keep your precepts and testimonies, for all my ways are before you.

### LOVE ONE ANOTHER->THE FAMILY OF GOD ...

- (John 13:34 ESV) 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.
- (Romans 12:10 ESV) Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.
- (1 Thessalonians 3:12 ESV) And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you.
- (Hebrews 10:24–25 ESV) And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
- (1 John 3:11 ESV) For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
- (1 John 4:7 ESV) Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.
- (1 John 4:21 ESV) And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

*AND I TELL YOU, YOU ARE PETER, AND ON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH, AND THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT.*

*(MATTHEW 16:18 ESV)*

