



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – October 15, 2023

Heart to Heart...

I need to teach this as it is as Spiritual as it can be. When the pandemic hit in 2020, everything went live on-line. It filled a great need It served such a great purpose for all of us. I'm thankful we live in such times. Now three years removed (almost four) , we have kept up our live streaming of our worship and it too serves a great purpose for those unable worship with us in person. I'm speaking of those too ill or aged to assemble. This live streaming is so much help to them.

Here's where the difficulty enters, and it takes an honest heart listening to the voice of the Lord. There is a trend that people claim to be believers in the Lord yet want little to do with His called-out ones called the church. Some see no need to the relationship with God's people but a need for the Lord.

As many of you know, the Scriptures from the Lord speak of the church, and it is the body of Christ. ***"And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."*** (Ephesians 1:22-23) The body of Christ is connected to Christ. Those who were baptized *into* Christ share Jesus in common (Romans 6:3-4). It's Jesus whom we fellowship and in that fellowship with Jesus, we fellowship with one another. The Hebrew writer calls us to: ***"Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds."*** (Hebrews 10:24) Don't we need each other to do this? ***"We know that we have passed out of death into life because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death."*** (I John 4:14) How is this love demonstrated? ***"Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth."*** (I John 3:18) It is a demonstrated love toward one another and not spoken.

I'm not trying to berate anyone. Again, for those unable because of circumstances beyond their control, the Lord knows that. But what about those because of a convenience to themselves,

to 'watch,' what are they showing? The body of Jesus works as one and shows itself as one connected to Jesus. The live stream was a blessing, but it can easily turn into something much different depending on our attitude to the Lord and His body. I'm looking forward to eternity with Jesus and His body. Those in Jesus Christ will be there eternally. Are you connected? Think about it!!!

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