

New Year's Eve 2019! Communion and Letter writing!

By Cere Muscarella

Getting A People Perspective! "A new commandment I give you, love one another. As I have loved you, so also you must love one another. *By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.*" **John 13.34,35**

But wait... "You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord." **Lev 19.18** "You have heard it said, You shall love your neighbor, and hate thine enemy." **Matthew 5.43 Rabbinic addition** "Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." **Matthew 22.39**

Loving one another wasn't the "new" commandment... Loving one another as He loved us was what was new!

Loving as He loved... Is an almost painful prospect... He loved perfectly! He loved at all times! He loved without regard to His life!

But in context, and reality... He wasn't talking about degree... As much as He was talking about "really!" *Not perfection. Not emotion. But action!*

If we look at His statement in light of the context... He is talking about loving in word and with acts of service!

The Scene... Is the Last Supper (communion) ... Is the foot washing that caught them all off guard... Is Him, completely calm and focused in the midst of His betrayer and denier's...

And as He is about to leave, He says, "Love one another like I have loved (and served) you and this is how they will know that you are My disciples!"

That's going to require greater faith than ever before... and a fresh 'communion' with Him!

We can show the world the love of God, but not without His presence alive in us!