

This email is the *second in a series of articles* that I've titled "GOD WANTS YOU TO KNOW". Each of these articles builds upon previous articles, so I would suggest that you print each article for future reference or save it on your computer. It is my hope that these articles will be beneficial to everyone who reads them. Please share them with your family & friends and feel free to email any questions or comments to me.

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## **GOD WANTS YOU TO KNOW!**

God wants you to know how you should manifest your love toward him. We can observe God's providential care for us throughout his creation. Nevertheless, we cannot know the magnitude of his love until we read about the crucifixion of Jesus in the New Testament. Neither can we know how God wants us to manifest our love toward him without a study of his word. In John 8:31-32 (KJV) Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." What does his word (New Testament) have to say about manifesting our love toward God?

In John 14:15 (KJV), Jesus' instructions are clear: "If ye love me, keep my commandments." Loving Jesus is synonymous with keeping his commandments or continuing in his word. Jesus also said in John 12:48 (KJV): "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." From this verse we can see the importance of receiving his words and teaching them to others. Many religious leaders claim to be teaching the words of Christ when in actuality they are substituting the commandments of men referenced in Matthew 15:9 (KJV): "in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." We should be like the Bereans who "were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11 KJV). Daily searching the scriptures will help us determine if we are being taught the truth of God's word or "the commandments of men".

If we want to manifest our love toward God, we must keep his commandments instead of the commandments of men. Otherwise, we are guilty of rejecting Jesus and our worship is in vain (worthless in God's eyes). We must receive the words of Jesus and obey them in order to be forgiven of our sins as indicated in Hebrews 5:8-9 (KJV): "Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." Since Jesus only authored eternal salvation for "them that obey him", what is involved with obedience to Christ and his gospel? This question will be discussed in article # 3.

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath." (James 1:19 KJV)