

**WHAT DOES GOD WANT FROM YOU IN 2015?
(LOVE AMONGST THE BRETHREN)
Romans 12:9-16 (Pt 8)**

I. THE SOURCE OF CHRISTIAN LOVE

- A. God Himself is the Source of True Agape Love (1 John 4:8, 16)**
- B. The Relationship of Truth & Love**
- C. Jesus Commanded Believers to Love One Another (John 13:34-35; 15:12)**
- D. The Prominence Given in the NT Epistles to love One Another (various passages)**

II. THE EXERCISE OF “BROTHERLY LOVE” WITHIN THE BODY OF CHRIST (12:9-13)

A. Christ's Love in us should affect our:

1. Character (12:9)
2. Contacts (12:10)
3. Conduct (12:11)
4. Convictions (12:12)
5. Concerns (12:13)

B. Our Love should _____ the Love of Christ in our _____ (12:14-16)

1. The key to good relationships within the family of God is _____ (12:16a)

2. The *enemy* to unity & like mindedness with Christ is the _____ or _____ of man!

Matthew 5

- The main theme in the Sermon on the Mount was _____ !
- Jesus confronted the religious leaders of His day because of the _____ - righteousness they professed.
- This is reflected or illustrated in Jesus _____ what the Pharisees taught the people! Six times He said, “*You have heard it said to those of old... , but I tell you*”... Mt 5:21, 27, 31, 33, 38, 43- ff

* What was Christ saying to the people then? Cf 5:20

- Jesus stated if there is **anger & hatred** in the heart toward another person... you have hated & killed them in your heart— Bottom line: _____!
- Mt 5:45-48 – bottom line: to possess true _____ a man needed a +R that _____ what the law demanded, but could never provide!
- Only _____ can provide that kind of _____!
- So... if we are to _____ our enemies, then what are we to do with those who _____ us right within the family of God?
- **The Point**: If we love only _____ who love us, how are we _____ than the Pharisees?

C. The Application of This Kind of Love (12:14-16)

- Keep in mind that all the verbs in this passage are in the _____ tense, which speaks of ongoing continuous action needed to fulfill them.
- Our love should be *demonstrated* within the family of God by:
 - a. The opportunity to _____ within the family of God, if not within your physical family! (12:14)
 - b. There is the challenge of _____ the right _____ to show love & mercy (12:15)
 - c. Thinking like _____ thought... by discerning the _____ of the hour... “*be of the same mind toward one another*”(12::16a)
 - d. Staying _____ (12:16b) “*Do not set your mind on high things..*”