



1 Peter

The Love Driven Life

1 Peter 1:22-25
A Study Guide

Read 1 Peter 1:13-25. It is important to keep the flow of thought clear in your mind. Paragraphs like 1:22-25 are not free standing and detached from what has gone before (i.e. context is king). When did the purification of the soul take place for the Christian (1:3, 18, 23)? In what sense is “obedience to the truth” (i.e. obeying the gospel) the same as believing in Jesus Christ for eternal life?

A changed life flows out of obedience to the gospel. This sequence must never be confused. Believing is not “hard” in the sense that there are not requirements we must meet if we are to become a Christian. Believing is “hard” in terms of the demands of discipleship. Living the Christian life is a life of brotherly affection (1:22). What two words in the Greek language are used for love in this verse 22? You can find this out by using your Bible concordance under the word love (New American Standard Concordance, p. 763). These two words for love are synonyms, but what does each word emphasize?

Peter uses the adjective “sincere” with love. What does he mean by this? A good commentary will help you look at the Greek word translated “sincere.” What would an insincere love be like? Give some examples. What is the meaning of word “fervent” in

describing love? How far will this kind of love go in proving itself (Jn. 13:34)? Can you think of some ways in which fervent love is demonstrated? This is an important question because many times we think very generally when it comes to love. The result is that we confuse love with feelings only.

What is the ultimate cause of the love Peter is speaking about (1:23)? What is the seed that is imperishable? Why is this supernatural event vital to loving the brethren? You will want to stop and consider is the difference between a Christian and a non-Christian when it comes to love. Can a non-Christian love others? What is the difference between Christian and non-Christian love?

Peter quotes from Isaiah 40:6-8. Why does he do this? Keep in mind that the imperative is in verse 22 (“fervently love one another”). What one thing is being emphasized regarding the Word of God? How is this connected with “obedience to the truth” (v. 22)? What does the abiding nature of the Word of God have to do with our love for one another?

Before you conclude this study take some time to think through your own “love life.” Do the people closest to you know that you love them? How would they know? Are there any sins you need to repent of that are keeping you from loving as you ought to love?