

John 14:15-24 Loving the Trinity

How can we live for God in a world that is troubled by hatred of God?

The love of the Trinity energizes our love for the Trinity.

1) Love for the Trinity is demonstrated by obedience to God's Word (14:15, 21, 23, 24).

- a) My commandments (2x), My word, My words—not only the ethical precepts of Jesus, but the totality of His revelation of God, which is also the Father's Word
- b) "keep" and "have" is both to possess as a treasure and to put into practice
- c) Love for Christ is inseparable from obedience to His Word.
- d) How can people like us, beset by sinful desires and a hostile world love like this?

2) Love for the Trinity is energized by the love of the Trinity (14:16-24).

- a) The love of the Trinity is first inner-Trinitarian (14:20a).
- b) We are brought into the inner-Trinitarian love through our union with Christ—the Word who became flesh, 1:1, 14 (14:17, 20, 21b, 23a).
- c) The love of God is an active energy that goes out to us with effect: 14:18—"I will not leave you as orphans (destitute)."
 - i) *God's love grants true knowledge of God—Divine Revelation.*
 - (1) 14:16-17—"Helper . . . the Spirit of Truth"—*Parakletos* most likely background is judicial; "friend in court"; "strengthening companion" (Borchert); legal counsel for a witness; He discloses the treasures of Christ to us so that we can testify against the world for Christ
 - (2) 14:19-21—"you will see Me" (post-resurrection appearances to elect); "in that day you will know that I am in the Father" (insight into the Person of Christ as Divine and into the Trinitarian nature of God); "I will manifest Myself to him" (self-disclosure of Christ)
 - ii) *God's love ensures the permanent presence of God.*
 - (1) 14:17—"He dwells with you and will be in you"
 - (2) 14:18—"I will come to you" (resurrection)
 - (3) 14:20—"you in Me and I in you"
 - (4) 14:23—"My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him"
 - iii) *God's love sustains the Godward life.* 14:19—"Because I live, you also will live."
 - iv) *God's love for us energizes our love for Him.* Notice the Trinitarian structure of Christ's promise in verse 16: "I for My part, will ask the **Father**, and **He** will give you another **Paraklete**, that **He** might be with you forever."

Are you treasuring the Word of Christ? Is your ignorance of God a symptom of your indifference to God? Let us not neglect so great a salvation.