

I Peter 1:22-25 *Stanley Toussaint*

I. Introduction.

- A. A practical outworking of our salvation is that we walk in love.
- B. One must be purified.
- C. One must be born again.

II. Condition of love: purity.

- A. Dirty hearts cannot love. (Matthew 24:12)
- B. No one is too dirty to be saved. (I Corinthians 6:9-11)
- C. The purification of the soul ends up in the love of other Christians. (John 13)

III. Command of love.

- A. Love is commanded because *agape* love is not natural—it is a choice, not an emotion like *phileo* love. (II Peter 1:5)
- B. People fail miserably with *agape* love.
- C. Love should be reciprocal.

IV. Cause of love: spiritual rebirth.

- A. Believers love one another because they belong in the same family.
- B. The believer is born again by the Word of God. (Romans 7:16-18, 21, 25, II Peter 1:4, I John 1)
- C. The Word of God lasts forever.

V. Conclusion.

- A. We must not forget that the main command is to love one another.
- B. We must be converted to love.
- C. There must be a constant purification of the soul in order to accomplish this.
- D. It is important that we be constantly in the Word of God for this.

Application questions:

1. What is the key for maintaining purity?

2. What are the different kinds of love? Why is it important to know the difference?

3. What does it mean to be born again? How does this relate to love? Explain.
