LOVING IS LIVING IN THE LIGHT

1 John 2:3–11

Key Verse: 2:10

1. Read verses 3–6. Note the author’s repetition of the word “know.” According to these verses, what shows that we truly “know” God? How does this refute the gnostic heresy?
2. What are “his commands”? (2:3b; 3:23) What strong words does the author have for those who don’t do what God commands, and why? (4) What happens when we obey his word, and what does this mean? (5; 4:12; 5:3) What does it mean to “live in him”? (6a; 3:24; 4:13) To “live as Jesus did”? (6b; Jn8:29)
3. How does the author address his readers? (7a) What was the “old command”? (7b; 3:11,23; 4:21) What is the “new command”? (8a; Jn13:34) What did the author say makes it “new”? (8b) How is its truth seen both in Christ and in believers? (3:16; 4:12)
4. Note how the author again refers to darkness passing and true light shining (8b). What examples does he give? (9–11) Read verse 10. What does it really mean to love a Christian brother or sister? (3:16) What effect does it have? (10b) What does it mean to “hate” a Christian brother or sister, and what effect does it have? (11)