

Introduction: **Glory** and **love** are the two great themes of **John**, **the Bible**, **Hopewell church**, and indeed **everything!** So, they are our two great themes, as we begin to study Christ's plan for Hopewell and its pastors.

1. We have been gloriously **loved**

- a. Jesus describes the events now set into motion as the Son of Man **being glorified** and God **being glorified** in Him
- b. Here, Jesus' **love** is especially glorified (cf. 13:1)
- c. Here, God's **love** is especially glorified in Him (cf. 1:14, 18)
- d. God's **atoning sacrifice** in Jesus Christ is how we know **love** (cf. 1 John 4:7-12)
- e. God is saying to us: "I love you, at least **as much as my Son.**" Here, we must know that, from all eternity, God has **loved us IN Christ** (cf. Eph 1:3-6)
- f. Jesus is saying to us: "I love you with **My love for My Father**"

2. We are gloriously **loving**

- a. We **love God** and **keep His commandments**, because He **first loved us** (cf. 1Jo 4:19); first great commandment
- b. We love **one another** because **we love God** (cf. 1Jo 4:20-5:1); second great commandment
- c. Right now, we cannot **serve Christ's earthly needs**, but we can **serve His body's earthly needs** (cf. Mat 25:31-46)
- d. We show that we are **disciples** of Christ in many ways, but especially when we **love one another.**
- e. We don't always get to **love** Christ in the way that **we want to**
- f. One day, we may get to **love** Christ by **dying** for Him
- g. Every day, we get to **love** Christ by **living for one another**

Conclusion: Even though we **love** one another **imperfectly**, we still **love** one another gloriously, because our **loving one another** is a display of **Christ's love in us**