

The Harder Side Of Saints

I. Introduction: This lesson is a follow-up to the lesson from last week sermon: <https://www.wordsoftruth.net/TheSofterSideOfSaints.pdf>

A. God is love and that means something for us (**I John 4:8**).

1. But, if you think God is only love, you are sorely mistaken (**Psalms 5:4-6, Psalms 11:5-7, Proverbs 6:16-19, Proverbs 16:5, and Hebrews 1:8-9**).

2. Our Father and our Savior are unchanging (**Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8**).

B. Remember, we are to pattern our lives after our Lord (**I Peter 2:21-22**).

1. He was not always nice or friendly (**Matthew 8:23-27, Matthew 23:1-33, and Mark 3:31-35**).

2. He sometimes was just outright hateful [full of detest] (**John 2:13-17**).

3. Jesus isn't the peaceful one many imagine Him to be (**Luke 12:49-53**).

II. Body: Like Our Lord, Saints Have A Harder Side Too (**Psalms 97:10**).

A. Not always full of compassion [sympathy] (**II Thessalonians 3:1-15**).

1. Able to see when someone is justly reaping what they've sown (**Proverbs 1:24-31, Proverbs 14:14, and Galatians 6:7-8**).

2. Our Lord shows us there is a line that sympathy cannot cross (**Matthew 8:21-22**).

3. Example, what will a lazy bum have to eat (**Proverbs 20:4, Proverbs 21:25, and Proverbs 24:30-34**)?

B. Not always loving (**Revelation 2:6; 14-16**).

1. Biblical love, the way it should be, cannot be joined with evil (**I Corinthians 13:4-6**).

2. If we are as pure as we must be (**I Peter 1:13-16; cf. I Peter 3:12**); we will NOT be able to be complacent when it comes to evil (**II Timothy 2:16 and II Timothy 3:1-5**).

3. Understanding that being loving includes taking actions people often do not think of as love (i.e. **Revelation 3:19**).

C. Not always pitiful [tenderhearted] (**I Corinthians 5:1-8**).

1. Our Lord has a mindset in that there is less pity upon those whom know better (**John 9:40-41, Hebrews 10:22-31, and II Peter 2:20-22**).

2. When the Apostles dealt with erring saints, that knew better, it wasn't full of pity (**II Corinthians 13:1-2 and III John 1:9-11**).

3. For those whom err from the faith, pity has to wait for evidence of change (**Luke 17:3-4** and **Acts 26:18-20**).

D. Not always friendly (**Psalms 139:21-22** and **Acts 13:4-13**).

1. We are not to be vengeful (**I Thessalonians 5:15**; cf. **Romans 12:17-21**).

2. Yet, not pushovers (**John 6:1-27**).

3. Our friendliness has biblical boundaries (**Matthew 7:6** and **James 4:4**).

III. Conclusion: Be sure you have the proper balance (**Psalms 119:104** and **Amos 5:15**) and an approach that will change the changeable (**James 5:19-20**).