

## **The Fruit from the Spirit** *Commandment or Commandments?*

### **I. The New Commandment (Jn. 13:34).**

1. Is a new quality of love; the new standard is Jesus.
2. Love is redefined—new concept.
3. Love is now a divine enabling (Gal. 5:22).
4. Love is different from ‘fondness’ (*e.g.*, Jn. 21:15-17).
5. The New Commandment is not a restatement, or refinement of the 10 Commandments.

### **II. Commandment or commandments (Jn. 13:34 *cf.* 15:10).**

1. The Father gave Jesus the New Commandment (Jn. 13:34; 15:10, 12, 14, 17; 1 Jn. 3:22-23).
2. Jesus then explained how to practice the New Commandment with commandments (1 Jn. 3:24).

### **III. Guarding the Commandments:**

1. Is loving Christ (Jn. 14:15).
2. Is loving Christ and is being loved by both the Father and the Son (Jn. 14:21).
3. Christ will then be revealed to that one (Jn. 14:21).
4. Both the Father and the Son will make him a place to stay (Jn. 14:23).
5. Is being ‘at ease’ in the Father’s love (Jn. 15:10).
6. Brings practical knowledge of initial salvation (1 Jn. 2:3-4).
7. Is maturing in using love and brings practical knowledge of one’s position in Christ (1 Jn. 2:5).
8. Is a prerequisite to asking-prayer being answered (1 Jn. 3:22).
9. The Christian experientially knows that he is ‘at ease’ in Him and He is ‘at ease’ in the Christian (1 Jn. 3:24).
10. When, by design, we do the commandments, we are experientially knowing we are loving the Father (1 Jn. 5:2-3).
11. We are to ‘order our lifestyle’ according to His commandments and in doing so this fulfills the New Commandment (2 Jn. 6).