

"SIGNS OF LOVE ... SET APART!"
NOVEMBER 1, 2020 - ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY
REVELATION 7:9-17; I JOHN 3:1-3; MATTHEW 5:1-12
Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.

Have you ever gone looking for one thing, and you find something else instead? Maybe you went to the store, looking for that product or brand you always get; suddenly you see something different, set apart, and it proves to be even better. Maybe you are moving, one community to another, or changing careers; hoping to find one thing or to re-establish another; it turns out different, better than you had hoped for. In our faith journey, we often go looking for Jesus in specific ways, and He often finds us in different and better ways than we thought possible. Long ago, people went looking for a savior. Jesus was set apart to be different from what people were hoping to find. As we celebrate All Saints' Sunday, as we read from Matthew, we see again, Jesus and Jesus' teaching are set apart to set apart Jesus, to be different than the people expected. Trust, celebrate, Jesus, God's Perfect Sign Of Love, sets us apart in grace, as signs of love with all the saints! Thanks be to God!

1. As signs of love, we are set apart and blessed to be saints, a different kind of saint. Matthew 5:1-12; 1 John 3:2
 - A. We are set apart in a different way than the world does things.
 - B. We are God's children, signs of love, set apart in a different way.

2. As signs of love, we are saints, set apart and blessed to live a different life, to live in a different way, to live in grace! Matthew 5:3-12
 - A. What are you good at? How did you get good at it?
 - B. God sets us apart, invites us, empowers us, blesses us as signs of love to live in a different way. Life in Christ was never intended to be an obligation or conditional, rather set apart as a gift, an opportunity, overflowing with signs of love, benefits, filled with blessings, by grace to live in Christ!

3. As signs of love, we are set apart with a different calling. Revelation 7:12
 - A. The world tells us to be self serving. We are signs of love, set apart to live out a different calling.
 - B. We are signs of love, set apart, to see others, too, as signs of love!

4. As signs of love, we are saints, set apart, blessed to love our neighbor, to live, here and now, eternally, in a different sense of community. Revelation 7:9
 - A. God's Kingdom, here and now, for all eternity, is so much smaller than we think.
 - B. God's Kingdom, here and now, for all eternity, is far larger than we know.

5. As signs of love, we are set apart with a different peace, a different hope. Revelation 7:9-17; 1 John 3:1-3; Psalm 23
 - A. The salvation we know that will be ours in The Lamb, what we will become, The Good Shepherd, gives eternal hope and peace.
 - B. As signs of love, set apart, the hope and peace to come, give hope and peace, here and now!
 - C. The saints above, the signs of love above, the angels, know what we will one day know; for now, we are jealous of the angels!

6. We are blessed with a grace and a Savior, God's Perfect Sign Of Love, set apart as saints. Are you looking for a specific Jesus, a specific Savior, a specific teaching? Trust, celebrate, in the grace of Jesus, with the power of The Spirit, we are signs of love, set apart in a different way than anyone could have anticipated. We love because God first loved us! We are forever saints, set apart, to be different in grace! Thanks be to God! Revelation 7:14; 1 John 3:1; Matthew 5:1-12