WE LOVE HIM BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US 4/26/19

* Today -- We came together to observe the 7th Day of Unleavened Bread * Thank you to Church of God International -- meeting with us * Recently began -- 6-Part Series About the Spring Feast Days * On 3/23 -- Part 1 -- Overview of Passover in Book of Exodus * On 3/30 -- Part 2 -- The Night in Which He Was Betrayed * On 4/13 -- Part 3 -- Do This in Remembrance of Me * On 4/13 -- Part 4 -- Are You Worthy? * On 4/20 -- Part 5 -- Reaction to Grace * Today -- Part 6 -- We Love Him Because He First Loved Us * When speakers begin a series of presentations, they generally establish a syllabus * During the ongoing preparation, they often make adjustments to the material -- As you can imagine, more adjustments come at the later stages of the series That was certainly true for me with this series Originally, Part 6 -- to emphasize what God expected * Actuality, Part 6 -- to further evaluate what God is doing *Before the commemoration of the suffering and death of Christ, we focused upon God's grace Ephesians 2:8-9 saved by grace Titus 3:4-7 justified by His grace *After the commemoration of the suffering and death of Christ (as we observe the Days of Unleavened Bread), we focus upon our Father's expectations of us Ephesians 2:10 since saved, good works Titus 3:8 since justified, good works since delivered, 10 Commandments since saved, should we sin? Exodus 20:1-17 Romans 6:1-2 Romans 6:3 baptized into Christ's death Romans 6:4-5 likeness -- His death & resurrection Matthew 5:14-16 good works to glorify the Father Matthew 19:17 keep the Commandments Matthew 19:21 give to the poor Matthew 19:21give to the poorMatthew 22:36-40two great CommandmentsRomans 12:1become a living sacrifice transformed by renewing of the mind many positive characteristics five sins in the wilderness Romans 12:2 Romans 12:9-21 1 Cor. 10:5-11 Galatians 5:19-21 avoid works of the flesh Galatians 5:22-23 reflect fruit of the Spirit Colossians 3:1-2 seek those things that are above James 1:25 perfect law of liberty James 1:26 bridle the tongue

1 Peter 2:11-12 good works to glorify God * Becoming a New creation 1 Cor. 5:7 new lump no malice or wickedness -- but sincerity and truth 8 Romans 6:3 baptized into Christ's death 4-5 likeness -- His death & resurrection 6 old man was crucified with him * How Well Are We Becoming a New Creation? * It is occurring * It is not occurring institutionally In fact, institutions oftentimes provide the * negative environment -- from which true growth occurs * It is occurring within the Body of Christ -- maybe still at the stage and size of a grain of mustard seed * Recognizing God's motive Heb. 12:5-11 motives of a loving Father 1 John 3:2 we are the children of God * Accepting God's love 1 John 4:19 we love Him because He first loved us