

# Sermon Outline

## Looking Ahead:

February 19     *"Expressions of the New Birth"* ~ 1 John 5:1-5, Pastor Corey  
February 26     *"The Importance of God's Testimony"* ~ 1 John 5:6-12, Pastor Phil  
March 5         *"Having Assurance"* ~ 1 John 5:13-15, Pastor Corey

If you would like to TEXT a prayer request to The Chapel Staff, text the word "prayer" to 269-280-2878.

## ***"Completing The Circuit of God's Love ~ Remaining in and Reproducing God's Love," Part 2***

1 John 4:17-21

February 12, 2023

## Introduction:

*2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!*

I. Possessing the Assurance of God's Love, v.13-16.

II. Remaining in God's Love, v.17-18.

A. What we have when the circuit is complete: Confidence before God, v.17a.

B. When we have this: At the Day of Judgment, v.17b.

*Rev.20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it ... <sup>12</sup> And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. ... <sup>15</sup> Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.*

*2 Cor.5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.*

*1 Cor.3:13 ... their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. <sup>14</sup> If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. <sup>15</sup> If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.*

*Rm.8:1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus ...*

C. Why we have this confidence: We are like Christ, v.17c.

- Literally John wrote: "... in this world as the one is, we are also ..."

*1 Jn.3:2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.*

1. We share Christ's attitude towards the world.

*1 Jn.5:19 We know that we are children of God, and that the whole world is under the control of the evil one.*

*1 Jn.2:15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup> For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.*

2. We share Christ's position before the Father.

*Rm.5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ ...*

*1 Jn.1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.*

D. How we can have this confidence: Fear is removed, v.18.

1. Fear and confidence are incompatible!

2. Completed love removes fear.

*Prov.1:7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*

3. The fear of condemnation is removed by Christ.

E. Application: This is all about our forgiveness.

**As God forgives us ...** so we are to forgive others.

*Isa.43:25 "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."*

*Ps.103:12 ... as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.*

*Mic.7:19 You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.*

*Eph.1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ...*

III. Reproducing God's Love, v.19-21.

A. Our ability to love comes from God, v.19.

B. Our love for others is proof that God's love is complete in us, v.20-21.

1. God's love in us casts out hate, v.20a.

2. Our love for God is seen in our love for our brother or sister, v.20b.

3. Our love for God is seen in our obedience, v.21.

C. Application: Do you love one another? Is there someone in the body of Christ you simply cannot love or forgive?

As God forgives us ... **so we are to forgive others.**

*Mat.6:14 "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. <sup>15</sup> But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."*

*Lk.11:4*

*Mk.11:25 "And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."*

*Mat.18:21-22,35*

*Lk.6:37 "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you..."*

*Lk.17:3 "So watch yourselves. If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them.<sup>4</sup> Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."*

*Eph.4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

*Col.3:13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

Conclusion:

1. Am I plugged in, receiving God's love?
2. Is my wire broken, short circuiting the flow of God's love?
3. Is my light on, fulfilling God's purpose in my life?