## 1 John 4: 7-19

LOVING GOD

&

EVERYBODY ELSE

• Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love; not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another,

- God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.
- God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this

• world, we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us.

#### THE SOURCE OF LOVE

• John 3:16 "For God loved the world so much that He gave His one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."

# THE SOURCE OF HATE 1 John 4: 5-6

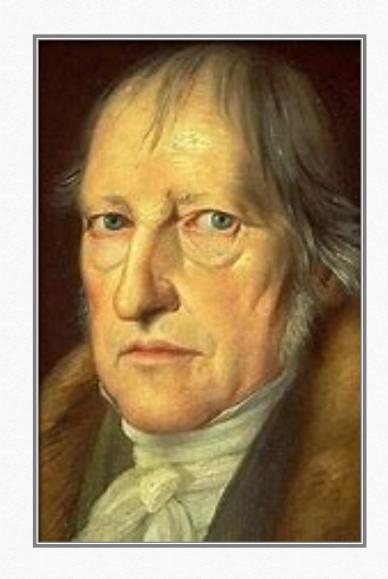
"We are from God and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood."

#### HATE

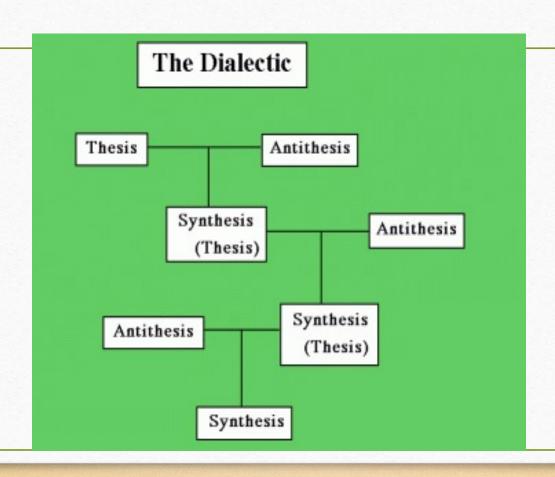
Intense hostility and aversion deriving from fear, anger or a sense of injury

Georg W.F. Hegel 1770-1831

German Philosopher influenced by Immanuel Kant and J.J. Rousseau



## Hegel's Dialectic



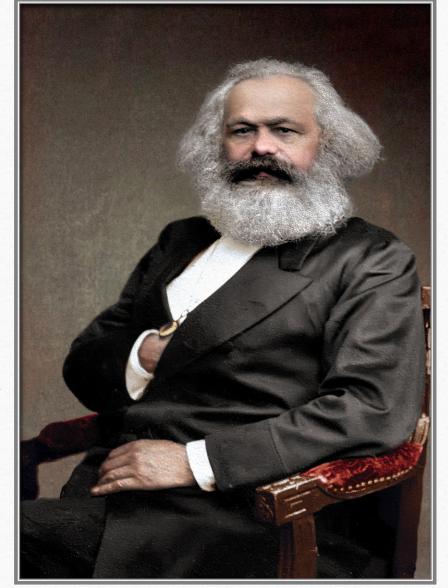
## The "Spirit of Falsehood and Deception"

- 1 John 4: 4-5
- "The Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world. Those people belong to this world, so they speak from the world's viewpoint, and the world listens to them!"

KARL MARX

Dialectical Materialism:

Capitalism vs. Workers revolution ends in Socialist Utopia



## Hatred and Deception

- The spirit of falsehood works overtime in this world to conflict with the Truth of God's Holy Spirit
- Marxism has become one of the most deadly tools satan has used (socialism, communism)

#### John's Recipe for Real Love!

•#1

•Love comes from GOD

(vs. 7-8)

• #2

JESUS is God's Greatest Expression of Love

• (vs. 9-10)

•#3

• If we belong to Him, then His Love flows through us

• (vs. 11-13)

• #4

• When we Love like Jesus, we become confident in God's eternal Love

• (vs. 17-19)

• #5

• "GOD IS LOVE!"

• (vs. 8, 16)

#### "GOD IS LOVE"

- God's love IN US reaches its completion IN US when the hate and bitterness of this world cannot compete with the love God is revealing IN US and THROUGH US!
- Changing generations through God's power and Spirit!

#### Important Questions for the Christian:

- How do you teach someone to love God?
- How do we respond to the intense hostility of "the world"?
- Upon what should we focus?

#### FOCUS OUR HEARTS and MINDS

- •1. KNOW GOD! (first)
- •2. REFUSE HATE! (the enemy)
- 3. DISCERN THE EVIL! (especially for your children and grandchildren)

#### Psalm 139:23-24

• (NLT) "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends You and lead me along the path of everlasting life!"