

LOVED — WEEK FOUR — GOD SHOWED HIS LOVE IN JESUS

1 John 4:9

December 17, 2023

1. Introduction

a. Welcome—Guests

b. Mission & Vision

c. Series—Loved: The Message of Christmas

i. LOVED: The Message of Christmas — 1 John 4:7-12

1. The message of Christmas is that **YOU ARE LOVED.**

a. We have a hard time grasping God's love for us, but it's the most important thing.

2. This advent season we're discovering six ways God's love is revealed in 1 John 4:7-12.

3. Week One—God is the source of love

4. Week Two —Love Comes From Knowing God

5. Week Three—God is Defined by Love

6. Today—**God Showed his Love in Jesus**

a. **1 John 4:9.** 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.

2. The Incarnate Son

- a. John 16:28a. I came from the Father and entered the world.
- b. D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones: 5 points about the incarnation of Jesus
 - i. The incarnation shows us the importance of the Trinity.
 1. All three persons involved.
 2. God can identify with humans while retaining all his attributes, like omnipresence.
 3. Self-sacrifice of the Son, paternal sacrifice of the father
 - ii. The triune God did not become human, the second person did.
 1. **John 1:14.** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
 - iii. The Son of God did not just appear to be human, he became truly human.
 1. Not a theophany like times in the OT.
 2. 1 Corinthians 15:20. Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
 3. Hebrews 2:10. The pioneer of salvation for his brothers and sisters.
 4. Hebrews 4. A high priest forever.

- iv. He is the same person he always was—a new form or manifestation, but not a new person.
- v. He received his human nature from the Virgin Mary in the line of Abraham.
 - 1. **Matthew 1:16-17.** and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah. Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.
 - 2. **Hebrews 2:14-17.** Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

3. The One & Only Son

- a. **John 3:16.** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- b. Nine uses in the NT
 - i. Luke 7. A widow’s one and only son.
 - ii. Luke 8. A man’s one and only daughter who had died.
 - iii. Luke 9. A man’s one and only son who was demon possessed.

- iv. Hebrews 11. Abraham's one and only son Isaac.
 - v. 5 times of Jesus in John & 1 John.
- c. All uses speak to the cost of sacrificing one's only child. There is no comfort in another child.
- i. STORY.

4. The Life-Giving Son

- a. STORY. We want things that are life-giving.
- b. **John 17:3.** Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.
- c. **1 John 3:14.** We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death.
 - i. Yarbrough. "To live is to love."
 - ii. 1 John 3:16-18. This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.
- d. Eternal life = hope for now
 - i. John 10:10
- e. Eternal life = hope forever

i. John 3:16

5. Invitation to Prayer

a. God is the source of love.

i. Our opportunity for oneness

b. Love comes from knowing God.

i. Recognizing all he's done for us

c. God is defined by love.

i. He identifies with us.

d. God showed his love in Jesus.

i. Incarnate

ii. One & Only

iii. Life Giving