

The First Epistle of John

Chapter 4:7-21

“True Love!”

> **EDUCATION:** JESUS SAID - *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.* - John 13:34-35

> **APPLICATION:**

I) GOD’S LOVE FOR US! (v7-10)

(v7a) Who created love? *God!*

(v7b) What is the birthmark of every Christian? *God’s love!*

(v8) What is the image of God? *God is love!*

(v9) Why did God send His only begotten Son into the world? **So that we might live through Him!** (Luke 4:4 - *And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.* John 6:51 - *I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.* John 14:19 - *Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.* Gal 2:20 - *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

(v10) How was God’s love manifested for us? *God sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins!*

- **Definition for PROPITIATION** [pro PISH ih a shun], which is: the atoning death of Jesus on the cross, through which He paid the penalty demanded by God because of man's sin, thus setting mankind free from sin and death. The word comes from an old English word, propitiate, which means "to appease." Thus, propitiation expresses the idea that Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for sin which a holy God demanded of man the sinner. Although Jesus was free of sin, He took all our sins upon Himself and redeemed us from the penalty of death which our sins demanded. (Romans 3:21-26)

II) OUR LOVE FOR GOD! (v11-16)

(v11-12) How do we know that God abides in us? *By loving one another!*

(v13) How do we know that we abide in Him? *He has given us His Spirit!*

(v14) What do we testify? *Jesus is the Savior of the world!*

(v15) What is our confession? *Jesus is the Son of God!*

(v16) What do we know and believe? *God loves us!*

(God’s love through Christ changes lives, such as: (1) a woman who said, “Oops, I did it again!” (John 8:1-12); (2) another woman lived a life of “What doesn’t kill you, makes you stronger” (John 4:4-26); (3) two men out of their minds (Matthew 8:28-33); (4) a thieving tax collector (Luke 19:1-9); (5) a denier (Luke 22:31-62); etc., etc.

- **It’s been said, “In happy moments, praise God! In difficult moments, seek God! In quiet moments, worship God! In painful moments, trust God! In every moment, thank God!”**

III) OUR LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER! (v17-21)

(v17) Why can we have boldness on the day of judgment? *As He is, so are we in this world!*

(v18) What does perfect love do? *Casts out all fear!*

(v19-20) What is a person who says he loves God, but hates his brother? *A liar!*

(v21) What is our commandment from God? *Love God, love one another!*

- **John Wesley said, “Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can.”**

> INSPIRATION: John 15:9-17- *His love produces joy, friendships, fellowship, fruitfulness, & answers to prayer!*