

**DO YOU LOVE GOD OR
DO YOU LOVE HIM NOT?
SO YOU MAY KNOW MESSAGE SERIES WEEK 7**

1 John 4:7-21

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Central Theme of 1 John 4:7-21:

The evidence that one has a genuine relationship with God will be revealed in His love for others which is not possible without first walking in love for God by obedience to His Word. Therefore, anyone who has been delivered from the penalty of sin, the power of sin, and soon the presence of sin, unto a right standing and right relationship with God, will demonstrate a love for God by obedience to His Word and love for others which works out in serving others accordingly. This will result in maturity in Christ-like character and confidence before God in the day of judgment. If this is not happening, something is wrong. One must examine himself or herself to see where he or she truly stands with God. So the question is, do you love God or do you love Him not?

Ten Point Summary of 1 John 4:7-21

1. We are commanded to love one another which is ultimately seeking the highest good of others in any or all aspects of life without looking for anything in return for our service towards them.

2. The source of this quality of love we are commanded to give to one another is from God who is by nature and action the epitome of love.

3. The demonstration of this quality of love is seen in God the Father sending God the Son:
 - a. to be crucified on the cross, buried, and resurrected on our behalf.

 - b. to deliver us from the penalty of sin, the power of sin, and soon the presence of sin, unto a new life in union with Christ Jesus for us who put our faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

4. God loved us in this fashion because this was His nature, not because we loved Him.

5. We are to love others because of the reality that God loved us first.

6. We are to love others according to who we are in Christ and the power we have in Christ, not according to who people are or how they treat or mistreat us.

7. Since we have the Holy Spirit indwelling us, we have the power to love people according to the ability granted to us by the Holy Spirit, which is not contingent upon the attitudes and actions of others.

8. Even though no one has seen God, the evidence that we
 - a. have embraced the love of God for us,
 - b. have embraced Jesus as the Son of God,
 - c. possess a real relationship with God and not just profess a relationship with God,

will be confirmed by the Holy Spirit within us and demonstrated by our obedience to God, leading to loving others with the quality of love that God demonstrated to us.

9. The more we embrace the love of God for us, pursue walking in obedience to God in all aspects of life, and demonstrate God's quality of love to others:
 - a. we will grow to maturity in Christ-like character.
 - b. we will have confidence before God in the day of judgement because we have walked in love for God and others reflecting His character of love in this world.
 - c. we will not be fearful of punishment from God.

10. Genuine love for God will always result in genuine love for others, not hatred, or that person does not know and love God at all. Do you love God or do you love Him not?