

Fellowship with God Who Is Love – Part II

I John 4:11-21

June 2, 2024

- I. **Review of verses 7-10**
 - A. Love is a family characteristic – vs. 7, 8
 - B. The supreme manifestation of love vs. 9, 10
- II. **The Responsibility of Love – vs. 11, 12**
 - A. What it is
 - 1. To love one another – v. 11
 - a. Ephesians 5:1, 2
 - 2. “Let others see God in us” – v. 12a
 - a. II Corinthians 3:2, 3; John 13:34, 35
 - b. “Love is our strongest apologetic”
 - B. What it reveals – v. 12b
 - 1. He abides in us
 - 2. His love is perfected in us - it grows to completion in us
- III. **Love and the Indwelling Presence of God – vs. 13-16**

(Three tests of His indwelling)

 - A. The witness of the Spirit – v. 13
 - 1. To our justification
 - a. Romans 8: 16
 - 2. To our sanctification
 - a. Galatians 5:16, 17, 22, 23
 - B. Our confession of the Son – vs. 14, 15
 - 1. His work of salvation – v. 14
 - a. Colossians 1:19-22
 - 2. His Person – v. 15
 - a. Colossians 1:15-18
 - C. Our dwelling place in love – v. 16
 - 1. We have come to know His love
 - 2. We trust His love
 - a. Daniel 3:13-18
 - b. Philippians 4:10-13
- IV. **The Perfection of Love in Us – vs. 17-21**

It results in:

 - A. Our confidence in Him – v. 17
 - 1. In the day of judgement
 - a. See 2:28
 - 2. In our sonship
 - B. The casting out of fear – v. 18
 - 1. Slavish fear
 - a. Romans 8:15;
 - b. John 8:34-36
 - 2. Fear of punishment
 - a. Romans 8:1
 - 3. All Fear
 - a. Psalm 34:4
 - C. Complete love – vs. 19-21
 - 1. Love for God
 - 2. Love for our brother
 - a. Both are necessary. Without love for God, you are a humanist. Without love for your brother you are a cold theologian.
 - D. The Love of God – vs. 5:1-3
 - 1. It comes from a proper knowledge of Jesus Christ – v. 1a
 - 2. To know the Father is to love Him and His children – v. 1b
 - 3. A test: If we say we love the brethren, then we must love the Father and keep His commandments – vs. 2, 3
- V. **Love: Who We Are to Love (all people, not things)**
 - A. Love the Lord your God – Matthew 23:37, 38
 - B. Love your spouse – Ephesians 5:25; Titus 2:4
 - C. Love the brethren – I John 4:7; John 13:34, 35
 - D. Love your neighbor – Matthew 23:39
 - E. Love your enemies.
- VI. **Our Priorities Based on the Above List**
 - A. Your commitment to the person of Christ
 - B. Your commitment to your partner in Christ
 - C. Your commitment to the brethren
 - D. Your commitment to the work of Christ in the world