

# Fellowship with God Who Is Love

I John 4:7-12  
May 19, 2024

## I. Introduction

- A. Love is a constant theme of John's
  - 1. 2:7-11
  - 2. 3:10-18
- B. If we love it demonstrates – v. 7
  - 1. We are born of God
  - 2. We know God
- C. Proposition: Perfect love must find expression to our brother if it is genuine. It is a natural expression of the love of God in us.

## II. Love is a Family Characteristic – vs. 7-8

- A. The Bible describes the nature of God in three ways:
  - 1. God is spirit – John 4:24
  - 2. God is light – I John 1:5
  - 3. God is love – I John 4:8
    - a. This is fact not a definition
    - b. This means that love is an essential attribute of God
    - c. His love is:
      - i. Eternal (unending) – Isaiah 49:15; Jeremiah 31:3; Romans 8:32-39
      - ii. Sovereign (uncaused) – I John 4:10, 19; Deuteronomy 7:7, 8
      - iii. Infinite (unlimited) – Ephesians 2:4; 3:17-19; Psalm 100:5
      - iv. Immutable, (unchanging) – John 13:1; Song of Solomon 8:6, 7
- B. Because God is love we are to love one another
  - 1. John 13:34, 35; 15:12, 17
  - 2. Romans 13:8
  - 3. I Thessalonians 3:12; 4:9
  - 4. I Peter 1:22; 4:8
  - 5. I John 3:11, 23; 4:11, 12
  - 6. II John 5

## III. The Supreme Manifestation of Love – vs. 9, 10

- A. He sent His son – v. 9
  - 1. “And the Father who sent me . . .” – John 5:37
  - 2. “. . . Peace be with you; as the Father has sent me, I also send you” – John 20:21
- B. He sacrificed His son – v. 10
  - 1. I Peter 2:24; 3:18; II Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 1:3; 9:22, 26
  - 2. Satisfaction of the Divine wrath – Romans 3:25
  - 3. Not man appeasing God but God satisfying His own demands by sacrificing

## IV. The Responsibility of Love – vs. 11, 12

- A. What it does
  - 1. To love one another:
    - a. "God so loved us." This speaks of the manner and extent of His love
  - 2. To let others see God in us:
    - a. See verses 9, 12 and II Corinthians 3:2
- B. What it reveals:
  - 1. He abides in us
  - 2. His love is perfected in us – it grows to completion in us