

# FIRST JOHN STUDY

## CHAPTER 4:7-11

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### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Loving Like God”

### THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

1 John 1:3

“That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”

### TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Fellowship, Love, God is Love, Christianity

### INTRODUCTION:

*The Reading of the Text*

*vv. 7-11*

### Chapter 4

Deals with the theme of correct Christian fellowship  
(The kind of fellowship that is to take place among us as true followers of Christ)

### When it Comes to the Christian Witness

The Expression and Lifestyle of the believer will be that of Love – a divine love

There is really no greater witness to the world that God is real than by our visible love for God and love for one another

vv. 1-6

There is to be a **biblically based conversation** about  
False Teachers & False Doctrine among the church

vv. 7-11

There is to be the encouragement to **brotherly love**  
and to maintain that love at all times

vv. 12-21

And that we should **energetically express** the love of God toward all that meet  
both Christian and non-Christian

## The Love of God

**Profile** The Apostle John

In Light of Having Been the Author of The Gospel of John and  
I,II,III, John as well as the Book of Revelation

John's Most Meaningful Revelation was  
That God Loved Him

# John Knew Well This Love that God had for Him

John 21:20

Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"

## ***The Summation Sentence of the Text***

Since the love of God dwells within every believer, then we should be learning how to practice this love of God

**I John 4:7-11**

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God 8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

There is an inseparable union  
Between The Divine Love, The Christian Fellowship, and The Death of Christ

## **What God is**

### **1) The Divine Love**

**vv. 7-8**

Beloved, let us **love** one another, for **love** is of God; and everyone who **loves** is born of God and knows God He who does not **love** does not know God, for God is **love**.

### **a) Love is a natural display of having been born of God**

7 Beloved, let us love one another

Beloved, **let us love** (to release or activate love from our lives)

The Fact Is

By Right of Ownership, God Desires to Control Us

**Not by and for Totalitarian means but by the law of love**

James 2:8

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well;

Galatians 5:14

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

**Love one another** (with the clear intent toward others)

If I would love you as Jesus has loved me,  
Then a relationship would be formed that could not be stopped

John 13:1

Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

**b.) God's Love characterizes those who know God**

7b for **love** is of God; and everyone who **loves** is **born** of God and **knows** God

**There is a Love of the World**

John 15

"the world loves its own. "If you were of the world it would love you"

I John 2:15-16

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world-- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-- is not of the Father but is of the world.

**The Love of God (divine in nature and origin)**

Romans 5:5

God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

7b everyone who loves **is born** of God

(The Love is Proof of The Life)

1 Thessalonians 4:9

But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another;

7b and everyone who loves is born of God and **knows** God



**knows grk 1097 ginosko (ghin-ocē'-ko);**

to "know" (absolutely) to be sure, to understand. to have deep union, intercourse, oneness, the highest form of unity possible

Matthew 19:5-6

"And said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together..."

**c) The lack of love reveals that one doesn't know God**

8 He who does not love does not know God, **for God is love**

He who does not love

(The personal heart love of God – not the intellectual mind knowledge of man)

One is **actually** compared to the other  
which is **imagined**

One standard against the other

**for God is love**

*It has been well said that  
"Love does not define God, but God defines love"*

## What God Is

*He is Spirit*

John 4:24  
"God is Spirit"

*And He is Light*

I John 1:5

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

*And He is Love*

1 Corinthians 13:1-8

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails.

**So Real and Tangible is this Divine Love**

That it is clearly seen in the lives of those who possess it  
– those who have been born of God.

## **This is Something**

Those who do not know God cannot express, show, display, or experience... **the real love**

Just as there is a **compassion** that is native to every human being  
and just as there is a **pity** that is native to every human being  
So there is a **love** that is native to every human (self love)

John 15  
"The world it would love you"

(A self love)

## What God Did

**2) The Christian Fellowship**

**vv. 9**

In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him

**a) Jesus came to show us real fellowship**

In this the love of God was **manifested** toward us

In this the love of God (the love of) was **manifested** toward us



**Manifested** grk 5319 phaneroo (fan-er-o'-o);

to render To come out into the open. To make visible that which was not visible. To unveil.

1 Timothy 3:16

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory.

I John 3:5

And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins..

**b) Jesus was the only unique revelation of God**

9 that God has sent His only **begotten Son** into the world,

God has sent

**Because Real Love Cannot Sit Idle**

# Real Love is an Active Love

**Begotten Son**



**Begotten**

grk 3439 monogenes (mon-og-en-ace');

unique. the only one of a kind. Having a 'once and only' status. Something that is and there shall never be anything else like it

## It was God who reached down to us

Luke 4:18-19

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; he has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

**Only His Uniqueness Could Have Saved Us**

John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

I John 3:16

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.

**c) Jesus is the only source for real living**

9 that we might live through Him

# The purpose and the means

## Jesus' death was not an **accident** Jesus' death was an **appointment**

2 Corinthians 5:15

and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

### **3) The Death of Christ**

**vv. 10-11**

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

#### **a) The believer's redemption was initiated by God**

10 In this is love, not that we loved God

In this is love (In this way is seen the true love)

## **WE WERE REBELS AGAINST GOD**

Ephesians 2:1-2

And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience,

#### **b) God's love for the believer is an all forgiving love**

10 but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins

Deuteronomy 7:7-8

"The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; 8"but because the LORD loves you...

That He loved us

## **When Did God Love You?**

Galatians 1:15

it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace,

Jeremiah 1:4-5

Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

10 sent His Son to be the **propitiation** for our sins



**propitiation**

2435 hilasterion (hil-as-tay'-ree-on);  
an expiatory (as a place or a thing or a place and thing)  
an atoning victim. The lid of the Ark of the covenant = (in  
the Temple): the mercy seat, or place of atonement.

The Word **Propitiation**

Makes a very clear assumption. That assumption is that there exists  
nothing that has the power, means or resources enough to accomplish  
**propitiation**

**The One who alone, uniquely**

had the power to pay off the debt that was and is growing against us

**c) God's love for us in turn compels us to love others**

*11* Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

**There is a lot of talk about holiness**

- There are **promoters** of holiness and holiness clubs
- There is no greater act or definition of holiness
- Than when we love one another in Jesus' name

**Holiness Personified in Action**

John 15:13

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."

I John 4:17

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world.

Beloved, if (since) God so loved us,

*11* we also ought to love one another.

**A Commandment**

**Love one another "Do it"**

It's nothing to be wondered about.

It's nothing to be questioned.

It's to be done now, on a grand scale, repeatedly

Romans 13:8

Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

John 17:23

"I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

John 14:31

"But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.

end