

Flag Branch Missionary Baptist Church
Baptist Training Union

1st, 2nd and 3rd John
How Should A Christian Live

Study 9 – God, Man and Love: – 1 John 4:7–21

7. 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.

12. No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

13. By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.

14. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.

15. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

16. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

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.

18. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

19. We love Him because He first loved us.

20. If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

21. And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.

Discussion

- A. The word for “love” John uses is “agape”. Describe agape. How is it different from some common uses and meanings of the word love? v. 7
- B. Who does John say we show love? Why does he say we should love them? What does loving this way say about those who do? v. 7
- C. What does not loving others say about someone? What does John mean “God is love” v. 8.
- D. How is God’s love revealed? How does this give us the opportunity to live? v. 9.
- E. The word “propitiation” means to “an act of appeasing or atoning to make amends”. Why does John refer to Jesus as “a propitiation for our sins”? Why is this love? v. 10.
- F. What should be our motivation to love others? Why? v. 11
- G. What is the outcome of God’s love being perfected in someone? v.12
- H. How can we know if God abides in us and we abide in God? What evidence exist that God’s has given us His Spirit? v. 13
- I. What does John testify? Why is this testimony important in knowing who abides in God and God abiding in them? v. 14-15.
- J. What does John testify to in this verse? What does he repeat about God and those who abide in God? v. 16
- K. How can we have boldness in the day of judgment? How should we be in this world? v. 17
- L. What is it about fear that is incompatible with perfect love? v. 18.
- M. Why can’t someone love God, but not love their neighbor? v. 20
- N. What is God’s command? Is this in any way optional? Why? v. 21