

Sermon: Demonstrations of God's Love

Text: [1 John 4:7-21 ESV](#)

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Introduction: John, the Apostle, has been sounding like a broken record. All right with all the love talk already. There are important implications to being in a Christian fellowship or family. We understand that family cannot be forced against one's will. Real love and commitment ideally comes before wedding vows are made public, or we make a public confession of our faith in Jesus.

Within the family:

I. We Have an _____ to Love (4:7-11).

Our salvation is sure and:

II. We Have _____ through the Holy Spirit (4:12-16a).

III. We No Longer _____ God (4:16b-18).

IV. We Have a _____ to Love (4:19-21).

Conclusion: With all of the decline in personal safety, with crime increasing and people in the world caring less and less about their relationship with God, maybe we could demonstrate to a skeptical world what real love is!

From when we were children we were taught "God is love." As we grow and mature in understanding we must also understand that love and punishment work together. Listen to John as he writes some of his last words to the church: [Revelation 20:15 ESV](#) 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

There is a penalty for refusing God's offer of love. There is a time to act on this offer, and it is now. Do not mistime your acceptance. There is a time when it will be too late. Don't be found sleeping when Jesus comes and be eternally shut out of heaven and consigned to hell.

1 John 4:7-21 ESV

God Is Love

7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we have 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 ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is 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 his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16 So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17 By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot[a] love God whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Footnotes: [a] 1 John 4:20 Some manuscripts *how can he*