

1/19/2025

"THAT POWERFUL LOVE" PART 2

I John 4:7-21



GOD'S POWERFUL LOVE

This is what our text explains... God's love.

God loves you. All of His activity is loving activity – even His judgment He does in love.

Do you understand God's **unconditional** love?

There is nothing in us that would cause God to love us. His love is based on His perfect love, not us.

LOVE THAT IS REQUIRED OF BELIEVERS

Look at **your** commands to love (v. 7, 8a, 11, 12, 20-21):

- And the big point John makes:
- The evidence of your Christian walk is your love!
- Again, we're not talking about Feelings...
- We're talking about Godlike love, a choice, selfless behavior

JESUS SAID THERE WERE 2 GREATEST COMMANDMENTS:

Matthew 22:37-40 – Emphasis: "The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

Mark 12:30-31 – Emphasis: There is none other commandment greater than these.

JESUS MADE THIS POINT IN...

Matthew 5:46

Luke 6:32-35 – Emphasis: ★ 35- the Most High

John 15:10

John 13:35

The EVIDENCE of being a believer is your love!!

LOVE THAT FLOWS THROUGH US TO A LOST AND DYING WORLD!

TWO FACTS:

I. LOVE IS FROM GOD

A. God who loved us

B. Those who know Him – know His love (v. 7, 11) have experienced that miracle, that new birth therefore **HE** makes it possible for me (you) to love the unlovely!

👉 Over 👈

C. No one has seen Him (v. 12) - *unseen God reveals Himself through the visible love of believers*

II. GOD COMMANDS US TO LOVE (20-21)

ALL THROUGHOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT:

- > **1 Peter 1:22b** – Emphasis: **love**
- > **Titus 2:4** – Emphasis: **love**
- > **I Thess. 4:9** – Emphasis: **love**
- > **Romans 10:13a** – ...**Love**
- > **John 13:34** – Emphasis: **love**

A. You will love

ASK SOME QUESTIONS:

- Am I loving when I get irritated with people in my way?
- Am I loving when I walk past, neglect someone in need?
- Am I loving when I'm always trying to get an advantage over others? or Make myself feel better at other's expense?
- Am I loving when I shame someone, say something mean and nasty, or get unnecessarily angered with them?
- Am I loving when I don't take time to care?
- Am I loving people going through tough, difficult things?
- Am I loving when I'm aloof of people's struggles and don't really care about them?
- Am I loving when I disregard others to push my liberties?
- Am I loving when I don't feel like spending time with someone because they're boring, weird, strange. [in my opinion]

➡ Are you loving? OR

B. Are you lying?

About loving an invisible God? (v. 12 again)

John's point: **how do you love God?**

By love for His people!

CONCLUSION:

- God's perfect *αγαπε* love is a blessing and joy!
- And it is a joy for us to share with others, so that they may see Christ.
- Christians who practice love show:
 1. They are born of God (v. 7)
 2. They know God (v. 12)