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## **“God is Love”**

*I John 4:7-21*

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“Miraculous Manifestation” (vv. 11-16)

### I. Introduction

#### A. His Love for Us (vv. 7-10)

1. We’ve seen our love for others
2. Because of the Love God has had for us
3. The fact that Love is of God for God *is* Love (v. 8)
4. We saw some of the evidence of His love abiding in us
5. Particularly as it relates to one another
6. Now we see the manifestation of God in this world

#### B. His Love through us

1. We reinforce God’s love for us
2. Our love for our brethren
3. We’ll see what God’s love can do \_\_\_\_\_ us
4. As we yield ourselves willing vessels for the Master’s use
5. We see a “Miraculous Manifestation”

### II. \_\_\_\_\_ for our Love (v. 11) — Review

#### A. Beloved

#### B. If . . .

1. Going over what we just saw
2. We have an “if/then” scenario
3. The “IF” here is regarding God’s love

4. "If God so loved us" . . . and He has!
5. We see that God \_\_\_\_\_ loved us
6. And *so* loved us!
  - a) In what way has he loved us?
  - b) Primarily in the way we just saw in verse 10
  - c) We did \_\_\_\_\_ love Him, but He reached out in love to us \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) Loved us when we were His enemies
  - e) Loved us when we unloveable
  - f) Redeemed us when some might say we were unredeemable
7. So if God has loved us in this way (and He has!)

C. Then . . .

1. We ought also to love one another!
2. In other words, what \_\_\_\_\_ do we have to love our brethren?
3. This is how God works
  - a) With love (John 13:34; John 15:12)
  - b) With forgiveness as well (Colossians 3:13; Ephesians 4:32)
4. The implication is that we are to love each other in the same way
5. Love others without expecting any \_\_\_\_\_
6. Love them \_\_\_\_\_ when they don't deserve it!
7. First and foremost, those in the church
8. Then of course those outside of the church
9. Galatians 6:10

III. Materialization of \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 12-14) — The Trinity

## A. Father (v. 12)

1. The invisible Creator God
2. Whom no man has seen (1 Timothy 1:17)
  - a) Yet he can be \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) John 4:24.
3. Some have come close to seeing God
4. We who have trusted in Him for salvation have a far greater privilege than these great men of old
5. For if we love one another, then that is evidence that God \_\_\_\_\_ in us!
6. His love is also perfected
  - a) That is, it is \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) For salvation and grace
  - c) There's nothing to be added to it; it's all that we need
7. The place where His love is perfected is in us
  - a) Not that we are now perfect in the sense of sinless or flawless
  - b) Instead, His perfect love makes us \_\_\_\_\_
8. But just how does He indwell us?

## B. Spirit (v. 13; 3:24)

1. Abiding
  - a) We just saw how He dwells in His people
  - b) That He abides in believers and believers abide in Him
  - c) The Spirit comes to dwell in us when we are \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
2. The confirmation of the Spirit
  - a) 2 Corinthians 1:22
  - b) 1 Thessalonians 4:8-9

c) Romans 8:16

3. So this is the proof for ourselves

a) God in us and we in God

b) God's \_\_\_\_\_ given unto us

4. This is absolute assurance that we are saved

5. The Father is the Master Planner

6. The Spirit is the means by which we are sealed and indwelt

7. Where does the Son come in?

C. Son (v. 14)

1. The Saviour

a) The Father in His master plan has sent the son (John 3:16-17)

b) The purpose, as we have already seen, has been to the saving of the soul

c) 1 Timothy 3:16

d) All who wish may come and drink of the Water of life \_\_\_\_\_; Accept Christ's finished work for salvation!

e) Revelation 22:17

2. Eyewitnesses

a) Personal

(1) John uses the pronoun *we* here

(2) It is in relation to what he and others bore witness to

(3) The Father sending the Son to be the Saviour of the world

(4) Indeed John and many others he is writing to were there personally

(5) To be eyewitnesses of the events of the Gospel

b) Spiritual

(1) Then there is us

(2) We who hold the written testament of salvation's plan

(3) We are spiritual \_\_\_\_\_

(4) This witness has been passed down from generation to generation and we hold it today

IV. Marks of the Disciple (vv. 15-16)

A. \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 15)

1. A test that we have seen at the beginning of this passage

2. Who do they confess and how do they confess

3. On the "friend or foe" test, those who confess that Jesus is God the Son, the Son of God are friend

4. All the rest "scattereth abroad" (Matthew 12:30)

B. \_\_\_\_\_ in love (v. 16)

1. What a truly magnificent thing is the love of God

2. We see two things that must be done in order to be a child of God

a) Know His love

b) Believe His love

3. We've established that if we are saved that we are abiding in God and He in us

4. So then the logic follows in this verse:

a) If God is love, and He is

b) And the saved are said to be abiding in God and He in us, which He does

c) Then we as His people are dwelling in love

5. He that dwelleth in \_\_\_\_\_ dwelleth in God, and God  
in Him

### C. The Love of God

1. The Christian is the Love the world needs to see
2. Christ has given us a commission to represent Him here on this  
earth
3. And we are to reflect the love that has so feely been granted to  
us
4. Not just where our brethren are concerned, though that is our  
first priority
5. But also where the \_\_\_\_\_ is concerned as well