

“THE LOVE OF GOD”

I JOHN 4:7-21

This passage probably contains one of the greatest single statements about God in all of the Bible... **GOD IS LOVE!**

1. Love _____ from God. Vs.7-8

-not an emotional feeling or personal expression

There was never a time when God started loving or would ever consider stopping His love. Where God was, there was love. Where God is, there is love.

Love has a two-sided relationship

a. knowing God- reading His Word

Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:18; Matthew 4:4; Romans 15:4; I Timothy 4:4-6

b. loving others

I Corinthians 16:13-14; Colossians 3:12-14; Hebrews 13:1

2. Love is _____ by God. Vs. 9

-the greatest demonstration was the willingness of God to send His Son to the cross

He died for us to pay the penalty of our sins. There was nothing we could do to take care of it. Ephesians 2:4-5; Ephesians 5:2; I John 3:16

Seeing Jesus helps us realize two things about the love of God

a. it is a love that holds nothing back

b. it is a totally undeserved love

Romans 5:6-8

3. Love is _____ by God Vs. 11-16

-completed by God and not in what we can do

God chose to shower His love on us and in turn expects us to show it to others. God's love was not poured into us to hold onto, but to channel to someone else.

4. Love _____ by God Vs. 17-18

-the promise that the perfect love of God casts out fear

The love of God is made perfect and allows us to live without the fear of judgment or punishment. God is gracious and loving in this way.

The grace and love of God can help us in the last days to transition into eternity.

-a grace-filled exit into a grace-filled entry

Luke 23:46

Christians habitually practice love because...

-God is the essence of love

-Believers desire to imitate God

-Love is the heart of our Christian witness

-Love is the Christians assurance

-Love is the Christians confidence in judgment