



# LOVE SO AMAZING

*“The Majesty of God’s So Amazing Love”*

2022 THEME

1 Jn. 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son *to be* the Saviour of the world.

15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

17 Herein is our love made perfect, 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 casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19 We love **him**, because he first loved us.

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That **he who loveth God love his brother also.**

A few weeks ago, we began a mini-series regarding “*The Majesty of God’s So Amazing Love*,” as found in chapter four of John’s First Epistle. The presentation of God’s love in this chapter is truly “so amazing.” Before going to the verses about His love, we observed the spiritual opposition that will be encountered. We began by considering “A SERIOUS WARNING TO CONSIDER” in 1 Jn. 4:1-6 which focused upon evil spirits and worldliness.

## I. A SERIOUS WARNING TO CONSIDER, 4:1-6

A. The Wicked Spirit, 4:1-4

B. The Worldly Spirit, 4:5-6

## II. A SPIRITUAL WALK TO CONDUCT, 4:7-5:5

### A. Divine Love, 4:7-10

#### 1. The Overflow of God's Love, 4:7-8

a. Who We Should Love, 4:7

b. Why We Should Love, 4:8

#### 2. The Object of God's Love, 4:9-10

a. The Expression of Such Love, 4:9

b. The Expectation of Such Love, 4:10

Last week, in verses 4:7-10, we observed the great truth of God's manifestation of His amazing love for mankind via the Incarnation – the virgin birth, plus the Lord's sinless life, His death, burial, resurrection, and His ascension to heaven.

This morning, we continue to see how the life of Christ produces a spiritual walk that is evidence of the believer's radically changed life. Like last week, this passage contains the “book ends” of “loving one another” as a center of a believer's life in 4:11 and 4:21:

1 Jn. 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

❖ Jesus declared that such amazing love is a powerful testimony for His glory!

Jn. 13:35 By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

❖ As we continue observing the passage, the logic of God's love and its outworking in the life of a believer is substantiated.

## B. Duplicated Love, 4:11-21

- ❖ When a believer lives a life reflecting the Lord Jesus Christ, the proper motivation should be a “duplicated love” that begins with God and is reciprocated back to Him in a faithful walk for His glory.

### 1. Its Cause, 4:11-13

#### a. God’s Love Perpetuated by Us, 4:11

1 Jn. 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.



❖ The blessing of salvation carries responsibility for the believer to live a lifestyle like the Savior –  
“...we ought also...”

**Original Word:** ὀφείλω; **Transliteration:** opheiló;

**Definition:** to owe; **Usage:** I owe, ought.

*opheílō* – to owe, be *indebted*, i.e. obliged to rectify a debt ("ought").

*opheílō* ("owe") refers to being *morally obligated* (or *legally required*) to meet an *obligation*, i.e. to pay off a legitimate *debt*. <https://biblehub.com/greek/3784.htm>

❖ The “cause” or reason that believers “owe it” to love one another is due to God loving us.

b. God’s Love Perfected in Us, 4:12-13

(1) The Principle, 4:12

1 Jn. 4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

❖ Believers have only seen God by the vision of faith while “looking unto Jesus” (Heb. 12:2.)

Jn. 1:18 **No man hath seen God at any time**; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.

Jn. 6:46 **Not that any man hath seen the Father**, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.

1 Tim. 6:16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; **whom no man hath seen, nor can see**: to whom *be* honour and power everlasting. Amen.

1 Jn. 4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, **how can he love God whom he hath not seen?**

- ❖ Seeing the Father is possible, first, through observing the Lord Jesus, and then, through observing His disciples who are growing in grace. Godly lifestyles reveal the essence of the Father.
- ❖ Disciples grow in grace while fellowshiping with the Lord which, in turn, “perfects” love.

**Original Word:** τελειόω; **Transliteration:** teleioó;

**Definition:** to bring to an end, to complete, perfect

**Usage:** (a) as a course, a race, or the like: I complete, finish (b) as of time or prediction: I accomplish, (c) I make perfect; pass: I am perfected.

*teleiōō* – to consummate, reaching the *end-stage*, i.e. working through the entire process (stages) to reach the *final* phase (*conclusion*). <https://biblehub.com/greek/5048.htm>

❖ God's love is "perfected in us" as we are reciprocating His love through faithful obedience.

Jn. 14:21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, **he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.**

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.**

24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

- ❖ Through the process of fellowship with God, knowledge and confidence is developed for a believer.

## (2) The Process, 4:13

1 Jn. 4:13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

- ❖ The indwelling Holy Spirit gives the believer confirmation of fellowship with God.

Jn. 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the **true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.**

24 God *is* a Spirit: and **they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth.**

❖ Salvation is a “know so” relationship, as well as knowing the value of fellowship that a believer has with Him.



## 2. Its Confession, 4:14-16

1 Jn. 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son *to be* the Saviour of the world.

15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. **God is love**; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

❖ Believers “have seen” with keen observation the results of God sending His Son specifically “...*to be* the Saviour of the world.”

**Original Word:** θεάομαι; **Transliteration:** theaomai;

**Definition:** to behold, look upon; **Usage:** I see, behold, contemplate, look upon, view; I see, visit.

*theáomai* (from *tháomai*, "to gaze at a spectacle") – **properly, gaze on (contemplate) as a *spectator*; to observe *intently*, especially to *interpret* something (grasp its *significance*); to see (*concentrate on*) so as to significantly impact (influence) *the viewer*.** [(*theáomai*) is the root of *théatron* ("spectacle in a theatre"), the root of the English term, "theatre."]

<https://biblehub.com/greek/2300.htm>

- ❖ What the disciples were assured of, they testified to others – “all the time, everywhere.”
- ❖ Love for another emboldens the heart to confess that love to everyone – v. 15.
- ❖ A believer growing in grace is deepening the love relationship with God in a strengthening reciprocation.

### 3. Its Consequence, 4:17-19

1 Jn. 4:17 Herein is our love made perfect, 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 casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

19 We love **him**, because he first loved us.

❖ The deepening love relationship in fellowship with God has consequences that will be manifested at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

2 Cor. 5:10 For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

❖ The “boldness” is the availability of assurance for a faithful believer.

**Original Word:** παρρησία; **Transliteration:** parrésia;  
**Definition and Usage:** freedom of, and openness of speech, confidence; boldness.

*parrhēsía* – properly, *confidence (bold resolve)*, leaving a witness that something *deserves to be remembered (taken seriously)*. <https://biblehub.com/greek/3954.htm>

Heb. 4:16 Let us therefore come **boldly** unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

1 Jn. 2:28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have **confidence**, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

- ❖ The desire of God is for His children to have boldness at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
- ❖ It is possible that a believer may not be bold, but rather, ashamed.

- ❖ The proper love relationship will quell the fear, because true love quenches fear.
- ❖ The believer's primary focus is loving the Lord...because He first loved us – v. 19.

## 4. Its Counterfeit, 4:20-21

1 Jn. 4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That **he who loveth God love his brother also.**

- ❖ Before reiterating that believers are to love one another, truth is revealed that some “Christians” are liars – revealed by inconsistent lifestyle that indicates no love.



## Summary

- ❖ Believers “ought” to love one another because the love of God is indwelling and motivating them to be resembling to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Love produces obedience to follow the Lord and fellowship with Him, which in turn, cultivates a deepening relationship with Him.
- ❖ Such a faithful and fruitful relationship with Christ will provide assurance for boldness at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

## Conclusion

Rom. 14:10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? **for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.**

11 For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.

12 **So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.**