

Allowing God to love us to the fullest extent of his love. How?

1) Understand the logical, biblical sequence of God's love, 1 John 4:7-10.

- **Love** means **know God** AND **no love** means **do not know God**, 4:7-8.
- God made his love known through his Son that we might **live through him**, 4:9.
- God's first and necessary step in love was in providing **a payment for our sins**, 4:10.

2) Understand the logical, biblical sequence of God so loving us and living in us, 4:11-15.

- Loving one another reveals the **presence** of God in our world, 4:11-12.
- Loving one another creates a **spiritual climate** wherein the love of God is perfected in us, 4:12.
- Loving one another invites the **presence** of the Holy Spirit in our lives personally, 4:12-13.
- Loving one another **testifies** that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world, 4:14.
- Loving one another is part of our **confession** that Jesus is the Son of God, 4:15.

3) Understand the logical, biblical sequence of perfect love casting out fear, 4:16-18.

- When we come to know God's love, we must then **love as he loves us**, 4:16.
- We then **live in God** and God lives in us, 4:16.
- His **love is perfected** in us, 4:17.
- This perfecting work brings **strong confidence** for the day of judgment, 4:17.
- This perfecting work **casts out our fear**, 4:18.
- **This perfecting work finally convinces us of our righteous standing before a holy God**, 4:18.



- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| • (1 John 3:11 ESV)
For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, <u>that we should love one another.</u> | • (1 John 3:16 ESV)
By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and <u>we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers.</u> | • (1 John 3:23 ESV)
And this is his commandment, <u>that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another</u> , just as he has commanded us. | • (1 John 2:4-5a ESV)
Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, <u>but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected.</u> |
|--|---|--|---|

How Great Is the Love of God?

- (John 3:16 ESV) **For God so loved the world**, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
- (1 John 3:1a NIV84) **How great is the love the Father has lavished on us**, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!
- (Psalm 57:10-11 ESV) For **your steadfast love is great to the heavens**, your faithfulness to the clouds. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!
- (Psalm 103:11-12 ESV) For as high as the heavens are above the earth, **so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him**; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- (Psalm 117:2 ESV) **For great is his steadfast love toward us**, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!
- (Ephesians 2:4-5 ESV) But God, being rich in mercy, **because of the great love with which he loved us**, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

Beloved (Ἀγαπητοί), let us love one another.

Beloved (Ἀγαπητοί) let us love one another.

What Then Shall We Say to These Things?

- **What then shall we say to these things?** If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?
- **Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?** It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.
- **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."
- **No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.** For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, **will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**
- (Romans 8:31-39 ESV)

Ἀγαπητοί, ἀγαπῶμεν ἀλλήλους ...

