

# LOVE: GOD'S EXPECTATION – I John 4:7-21

## Lesson 14

### I. A Call to Love

A. Loving is God's nature.

*Probably "God is love" is the singularly most important statement in the Bible.*

1. God's love **creates**.
2. God's love provides **freedom**.
3. God's love **participates**.

B. Loving is God's gift.

*God's "gift", Jesus, accomplishes much.*

1. God's gift brings **life**.
  - a. **Eternal** life
  - b. **True living** rather than existing

*There is a world of difference between existing and truly living.*

2. God's gift restores **relationship**.

C. Loving is God's continued and present activity.

*"The love of God displayed in His people is the strongest apologetic that God has in this world." F. F. Bruce*

### II. A Call to Understand Love

A. Love is a **gift** from God.

*Love is the result of the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

B. Love will be evident in our lives.

1. **Confessing** Jesus Christ

*Confessing the truth about Jesus is the evidence that we have the Holy Spirit.*

- a. The world **needs** a Savior.
- b. The **full deity** of Jesus
- c. The **focus** of His **ministry**
- d. The **motivation** of God

2. Loving **God** and loving **one another**

C. Love will be perfected in us.

*Perfected doesn't mean without flaw, but whole and complete.*

1. It will give us **confidence**.
2. It will make love of the **brethren** possible.

### III. Conclusion

*"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." I Corinthians 13:13*