

"Love for an Eternal Lifetime"

1 John 4.7-21

Jonathan and Pia have asked us to share for a few minutes from the Bible

As Christians we believe the Bible is the Word of God

For us it is a Fountain of Life – Clearest Understanding – Who is God

Who WE are – What is the Purpose and Plan of Life – What about Tomorrow

The Passage they chosen is from the 1st Letter of John in the New Testament

Written by a close Follower of Jesus named John > Relationships w/ God & man

READ Text....

Juan Carlos Ortiz pastor from Argentina read this verse for his Sermon:

"Beloved, let us love one another" – THAT'S IT! Very SHORT Sermon

SAT DOWN - People SURPRISED - LEFT QUIETLY - Repeated for 3 WEEKS

4th SOMEONE STOOD AND SHOUTED - "Enough, when will this stop!"

Ortiz: "WHEN WE ALL BEGIN TO REALLY LOVE EACHOTHER"

Pastor Ortiz was Right! --- Like the Beatles sang, "All you need is love"

For A church – For Life – For Friendship – For Marriage – and for Family

But LOVE is an OVER-Used word – If I tell my wife...

"I love Pizza, My Secretary, AND YOU" --- I might Not want to GO HOME!

These verses of Scripture give us God's Definition of LOVE

Learn THREE Great TRUTHS from these Verses for ALL OF US HERE!

1. Forgiveness is Done

v. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

World is Full of Religions – Even People w/ No Religion have a Religion

October 1 watched the AMAZING Dancing and Singing in Tianamen Sq –
English CGTV – Translation of Songs in ENGLISH

“...Chairman Mao is our Father...Life and Blessing come from him!...”

Wondered how Man lay Dead in Tomb just Meters away give Life & Blessing?
ULTIMATE Belief – Source of your HOPE > Self or Someone Else > Religion

All Religions – Except One – Same basic Message

Different Priesthoods – Rituals – Holy Books – Traditions – Duties

SAME Message > DO! Do This or That...Again & Again... OK with God

How do you KNOW if DONE it Enough?...SINCERE Enough?

MESSAGE of DO is Requirement of ALL Religions – except ONE

Jesus said DONE! He came to DO all that God Required – On our Behalf

ONLY He is Qualified – Had NO Sin, Innocent, Holy, Perfect

He gives HIS Perfection to all who put their Faith in HIM

Then this Perfect Son of God went to the CROSS

Took in His Body the Punishment of God’s Wrath – Penalty of our Sin

PULPIT of God’s LOVE – the CROSS – Jesus proclaimed God’s Love there

How do we KNOW the Full Payment was Made – 3 days Later ROSE!

Resurrection one of – if not THE Most – Established Facts in Human History

Because he DIED and ROSE for Us – We are PARDONED

Jesus is our PERFECTION and our PARDON

Christians talk about an experience or a “personal testimony.”

Every TRUE Christian should have SOME Experience of God’s LOVE for Them

But these are NOT Main Reasons to believe in Christianity
Christian Message is true in an objective, historical, and universal sense.

When Christians say the Bible is true, & our faith is true, not mean true for us.

We mean it’s true. Not mean it’s true if you accept it.

It’s true whether you choose to accept or reject it.

True because 2000 yrs ago, God of Universe became Real Man – walked Earth

2. Fear is Driven Out

vs. 17,18 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love.

Many People FEARFUL of Life, Death, Job, Failure, Acceptance
OF God > HIDE like Adam & Eve & FIG Leaves in Trees of Garden

God’s LOVE for US builds CONFIDENCE --- BOLDNESS

We don’t STAND Before God ALONE

JESUS stands for Us – His Wounds, Victory, Righteousness

Stand before GOD with NOTHING to HIDE and Nothing to FEAR
Run TOWARD Him and Not AWAY from Him Do not Want to HEAR
CONFIDENCE in PRAYER – Talking to FATHER who LOVES Us
COMFORT of Walking with God NOW
Confidence on DAY of JUDGMENT

NOTHING can Shake God’s Love of US – We are IN CHRIST

God loves you as Much as His SON – because you are IN His SON
 All ADVANTAGES of NEW Citizenship, Passport from HEAVEN

3. Freedom to Delight in One Another

.²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

HARD TO BELIEVE

WORLD FULL OF SORROW, EVIL, AND SUFFERING

IF THERE IS A GOD HE IS POWERLESS OR ALOOF

NOT THE WORDS OF IGNORANT, LUNATIC

WISE, MATURE APOSTLE OF JESUS "God is Love"

Origin – Love comes From God

v. 7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

LOVE is a Beautiful Thing – Whole World is in Constant Search of It
 SOURCE of Love is GOD the CREATOR – God gives Life & Daily Blessings

ALL TRUE LOVE COMES FROM GOD

Nature – Love defined by God

vs. 8,16 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Since God is the SOURCE of Love – then all TRUE Love comes from Him

16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

NOT IDENTIFYING QUALITY GOD POSSESSES
- ESSENCE OF HIS BEING

Initiative – Love begins with God

v. 19 We love because he first loved us.

2. God who always Loves

Past: Forgiveness

vs. 9-10 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Present: Filling

vs. 12-16 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. 13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. John 14.23

Future: Fearless

vs. 17,18 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

God who demands Love

a. Exclusive

v. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

b. Evidence

vs. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

1 John 4⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. ¹³ This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. ¹⁷ This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love

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