

# GODLY LOVE, JOHN'S CAUTION

I John 4:7-11

## Introduction:

- A. John has warned the fellowship of false spirits.
  - 1. "believe not every spirit."
  - 2. "try the spirits."
  
- B. In such circumstances, there would be much room for abuse.
  - 1. The flesh never allows for the judging of itself.
  - 2. Accusations could fly and hate emerge.
  
- C. John immediately issues another command.
  - 1. "Beloved, love one another."
  - 2. Love, godly love, would be the best defense against the flesh.

## I . THE SOURCE OF GODLY LOVE VS. 7,8

- A. God is the source of love.
  - 1. "for love is of God."
  - 2. If it is love, it is of God.
  
- B. When man loves, he reflects God's love.
  - 1. "and everyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God."
  - 2. Lost men may love, but only saved have Godly love.
  
- C. If men do not love they know not God.
  - 1. vs. 8 "He that loveth not, knoweth not God."
  - 2. "God is love."

## II . THE PROOF OF GODLY LOVE VS. 9

- A. "In this was manifested the love of God toward us."
  - 1. manifested = to make apparent, to make openly known.

- B. "God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him."
  - 1. "God sent."
  - 2. "that we might live."

### III. THE POWER OF GODLY LOVE. VS. 10

- A. God loved us in our sins.
  - 1. "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us."
- B. God's love provided a remedy.
  - 1. "and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sin"
  - 2. propitiation = expiation, payment, satisfaction, as in a sacrifice.

### IV. THE OBLIGATION OF THOSE CALLED THE CHILDREN OF GOD. VS. 11

- A. "Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another."
  - 1. How much did God love us?
  - 2. ought = to owe, to be indebted, to be bound, to be obligated.
- B. Love, the universal sign of discipleship.
  - 1. John 13:34,35
  - 2. Parable of the two debtors.