

## THE POWER OF LOVE

**1 John 4:7-21**

**Outline**

**Introduction:** The Bible is full of wonderful passages on the subject of love. Today we are going to stop and park on one of the most sensational love passages in the Bible. You will see that it is literally stuffed to the max with love. It came from the pen of John, the beloved apostle, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

**In the language of the New Testament, Koine Greek, there were four basic words for love...Eros, Storge, Phileo, and Agape.**

**John's greatest treatise on love teaches us eight eternal and practical truths. 4:7-21**

**The greatest SOURCE OF LOVE is God; therefore it follows that those who know Him will love others. vs. 7-8, Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.**

**The greatest DEMONSTRATION OF LOVE is Christ's sacrifice for sinners; so those who have received it should love others. vs. 9-11, In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.**

**The greatest OBLIGATION OF LOVE is to make God's love real and visible to others. vs. 12, No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.**

**The greatest GIFT OF LOVE is God's Spirit, who indwells us to make God and His love personal to us. vs. 13, By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.**

**The greatest WITNESS OF LOVE is God's Spirit, who testifies to the truth of Christ's finished work. vs. 14-16, And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.**

The greatest CONFIDENCE OF LOVE is peace with God. vs. 17-18, *By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.*

The greatest RESPONSE TO LOVE is love. vs. 19, *We love because he first loved us.*

The greatest EVIDENCE OF GOD'S LOVE within is love for others. vs. 20-21, *If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.*

**Conclusion:** *What or who is waiting to be transformed by the love of God working through your life?*