

The Love Of God (Part 1)

1 John 4:7-21

The Declarations of God's Love

- **John 3:16** Declares the **DEGREE** of God's love.
 - He "so" loved ... John 3:16 *houtoos* – "in this manner, thus, so" (Thayer)
- He Gave His Son. Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 27:27-56
- This is how a husband loves his wife. Ephesians 5:25
- This is how a mother loves her child. Titus 2:4
- This is how a soldier loves his country. 2 Timothy 2:2-3

The Declarations of God's Love

- **Romans 5:8** declares the **OBJECTS** of God's love.
 - John 3:16 – He loved the world.
 - Sinners. cf. Ephesians 2:1-2
 - Sin defined. 1 John 3:4; James 4:17
 - What sin does. Isaiah 59:1-2
 - Sin carries the death penalty. Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:14
 - What Christ did. Isaiah 53; 2 Corinthians. 5:21; 1 Peter 2:24; Hebrews 2:9-10

The Declarations of God's Love

- **Romans 8:35-39** Declares the **CONSTANCY** of God's love.
 - Nothing can separate us from God's love.
 - But we can separate ourselves from a relationship with God. Isaiah 59:1-2; cf. Romans 10:21

The Declarations of God's Love

- **1 John 4:9-10** Declares the **DESIGN** of God's love.
 - That we might have life. cf. Galatians 3:21, 10-11
 - cf. John 5:40; 10:10; 20:31
 - He became a ransom. Matthew 20:28
 - He became our propitiation. 1 John 2:2

The Declarations of God's Love

- **1 John 4:9-10** Declares the **DESIGN** of God's love.
- God's love provides:
 - Life for the spiritually dead. (cf. Luke 15)
 - Redemption for those enslaved to sin. Romans 3:23-26
 - Freedom from the bondage of sin. Romans 6:16ff; 8:1-2

The Declarations of God's Love

- **1 John 3:1-3** Declares the **REWARD** of God's love.
 - We are changed:
 - From sinners into sons. 1 John 3:1; Romans 8:14ff
 - Citizens of the kingdom of darkness into citizens of the kingdom. Colossians 1:13-14
 - Promised a changed body. 1 John 3:2; Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Corinthians 15

Motives Of Love

- **Admiration.**
 - This was NOT what motivated God's love for man. Genesis 6:5; cf. John 14:21
 - This is a motive that causes us to love God. 1 John 4:19

Motives Of Love

- **Gratitude.**
 - This was NOT what motivated God to love us. Romans 3:23
 - Man's love for God should be motivated by what God has done for us. Romans 1:21; Colossians 3:15
 - Psalms 118:19,21,28-29
 - Psalms 136:1-3,26
 - Psalms 138:1-2,4
 - Psalms 139:14

Motives Of Love

- **Pity.**
 - This was a motive for God to love us. Proverbs 14:12; Isaiah 55:8-9; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:1-10
 - It is not a motive for our love for God!

Obligations Of Love

- God is NOT obligated to man. Ephesians 2:4
- What obligations must we assume if we love God?
 1. We must live for Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; Galatians 2:20; Matthew 6:33
 2. We must love one another. 1 John 4:11; 20-21
 3. We must obey His commandments. John 14:21-24

Conclusion:

- **The Love Of God.**
 - Should obligate those outside of Christ to obey the gospel.
 - Should obligate those "in Christ" to be faithful in service and worship.
 - God first loved us. 1 John 4:19
 - Do you love HIM? John 14:15