

True Love
1 John 4:7-21

I. Progeny of Love – 4:7, 8

1. Brotherly love shows we are in Christ
Known to be His Disciples - Jn.13:35
2. Godly love shows we are born of God – 7
We are beloved of God – He is Love's source
His children born with His nature – 2 Peter 1:4
Love is the very essence of his nature
Those who know Him ought to display His love
3. Absence of love indicates relationship – 8
Lack of love indicates we do not know God
We don't know the very basics about God

II. Pattern of Love – 4:9-11

1. True love is seen in what God did – 9
True love is seen actions, not just in words
God's love seen in sending His Son
True love reaches out to meet a real need
"That we might live through Him"
2. True love is beyond human love – 10
Our love for God can't compare to His love
His Son provided completely for our sins
3. His children ought to love like Him – 11
God's Spirit seeks to produce love in us
Galatians 5:22

III. Personification of Love – 4:12-16

1. Invisible God seen in human flesh - 12
Humans need to see God's love in real life
If God dwells in us His love ought to be seen
2. God's love is seen in us by His Spirit – 13
It is the fruit of the Indwelling Spirit, not of us
3. Son revealed God's love in flesh – 14-15
Men can see God's love in Christ – John 1:18
Son brings us into a relationship with God
4. We are to be incarnation of God's love – 16
God's love is now to be seen in our lives

IV. Perfection of Love – 17-21

1. God is perfecting His love in us – 17
Our love is to become more like His love
2. Results of love perfected in us – 17-18
Boldness in the Day of Judgment – 17
When we hear His "well done"
We are set free from fear – 18
Living in love we do not fear our Lord's return
3. Our love is a response to His love – 19
We can love like this only because of Him
4. Brotherly love is God's love in us – 20-21
Love for God seen in our love for our brothers