



LOVE HAS COME DOWN

Fourth Sunday of Advent

1 John 4:7-21

CORE SCRIPTURE

“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we 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 ought also to love one another.”

1 John 4:7-11

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Agapē - Unconditional, self-sacrificial love; charity; God's unconditional, self-sacrificial love for humankind and humankind's love for a good God and for others.

GOD'S LOVE

1. Characteristics of God's Love - God's love, as revealed in the Bible, is

a. **Eternal** - Psalm 136:1

“O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth *for ever.*”

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- b. **Perfect** - 1 John 4:16-18

“And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.”

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- c. **Unfailing** - Psalm 143:8- 12

“Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee. Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies: I flee unto thee to hide me. Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.”

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“That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;”

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- e. **Unconditional** - 1 John 4:19

“We love him, because he first loved us.”

THE DEPTH OF GOD'S LOVE

*“I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, **as thou hast loved me.**”*

John 17:23

GOD'S LOVE IS IMPORTANT TO US BECAUSE

- a. It provided **salvation**.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

John 3:16

GOD'S LOVE IS IMPORTANT TO US BECAUSE

- a. It provided **salvation**.
- b. It provided **assurance**.

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose .”

Romans 8:28

GOD'S LOVE IS IMPORTANT TO US BECAUSE

- a. It provided **salvation**.
- b. It provided **assurance**.
- c. It is **transformational**.

“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not...”

1 John 3:1

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“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,”

Ephesians 4:1

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- e. It is evidence we are **Christians**.

“By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”

John 13:35

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- g. It lets us live **without fear**.

“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.” 1 John 4:18

**GOD LOVES YOU
PERMANENTLY.**

