

## **1 John 4 (7-13) – This is How to Enjoy Christmas**

This is not everything *about* the subject, or the last word *on* the subject, but it is foundational *to* the subject. This is biblically based instruction on *this* subject from *these* texts of scripture.

What do you want for Christmas? If you asked people what it would take to have a truly merry Christmas their answers would probably change from year to year, depending on certain situations, and especially considering the age of the person (child, a teenager, man, woman, parents, grandparents, charities). In any event, and with any answer, the truth is that what we all want for Christmas is to experience joy and to give joy. To truly enjoy Christmas the way God intends, we need to know what Christmas means for us, and what we should do about it.

1 John 4:7-13 – Why was Jesus sent?

- Because God loved us and wanted that love to be manifest among us
- To show where true love springs from
- Because there was sin and it needed payment
- So that we might live
- To give us the Spirit of love

The Father is love sourced (Vs.7-8) – all true love has God as its fountain

The Son is love proven (to the world) (Vs.9-10) – Romans 5:8

The Spirit is love experienced (in the heart) (Vs.12-13) – Romans 5:5

We are love demonstrated (to one another) (Vs.11) – John 3:16 / 1 John 3:16

How can we enjoy Christmas?

- By knowing God's love
- By living for God (incarnational life)
- By loving one another