

27 **Exposit: 1Jn 4:18**

18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.

☞ “there is no fear in love”, “but perfect love casts our fear”

☞ Any fear we have will be cast out by the perfect love of God!

☞ The contrast John is making here is that believers will not have any fear come judgment day, but unbelievers will remain in fear because of the ensuing punishment!

☞ TRUTH: If there is any fear or anxiety about judgment day, you are not resting in the perfect love of God and having full faith in the finish work of Christ!

☞ APPLICATION: Therefore, repent and have confidence in what God has promised and accomplished!

☞

28 **Exposit: 1Jn 4:19**

19 We love, because He first loved us.

☞

☞ V. 19 affirms the doctrine of election (God’s unconditional election)

☞ The reason we love or have love for God is because God first loved us!

☞ We are saved because God chose to save us

☞ We are loved by God because God chose to love us

☞ We love God because God loved us first! Period.

☞ This echoes what Jesus said to His disciples:

John 15:16 You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

☞ It can also be said: “Believers did not choose to love God,

but God chose to love us and appointed us to salvation and in return we love God back”

29 **Exposit: 1Jn 4:20**

20 If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.

∞ Interesting that John is quoting someone saying “I love God”

∞ Also interesting is John is the only NT writer to use both “hate” and “brother” in the same sentence

∞ Taken in context, there are many false believers, false teachers who claim to love God but hate their brother

∞ This is sadly still the case today

∞ As we covered in past studies (Brothers Keeper), hatred is the equivalent of murder (if not dealt with aggressively “sin crouches at the door” and desires to consume us)

∞ And we also looked at this in principal (if you claim to be a Christian yet have hatred towards another believer, you are deceived)

∞

30 **Exposit: 1Jn 4:20**

∞ But the further we get into this letter, I can’t help to keep the prophetic significance as well

∞ A lot of this letter has prophetic undertones

∞ It’s dealing with the present (John’s day), but it’s also prophesying concerning the future

∞ “Last Hour”, “there are many antichrists”, Jesus’s appearing, judgment, etc.

∞ This being the case, the quotation can also be prophetic in that it will come out of the lips of false prophets, false christs that precedes the coming of Antichrist, who will say they love God, but will hate their brother

∞ Jesus warns us of that in the Olivet Discourse in Mk 13:

11 When they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry

beforehand about what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour; for it is not you who speak, but it is the Holy Spirit. 12 Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. 13 You will be hated by all because of My name, but the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

31 **Exposit: 1Jn 4:20**

∞ So when John is quoting “I love God” in v. 20, it could very well be prophetic of the false prophets and false christs in the future who claim to be Jews and claim to love God and the Jews turning against each other

∞ This is consistent with Revelation 3 (to the church in Philadelphia):

9 Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews (and love God) and are not, but lie—I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you.

∞ Thus, v. 20 can also be prophetic in that there will be self-proclaimed Jews in the end of the age who will pave the way for Antichrist

∞ These will claim to love God, but hate other fellow Jews

∞ These will demand allegiance and it will result in the betraying of family

∞ Such self-proclaimed Jews are liars and belong to Satan

32 **Exposit: 1Jn 4:21**

21 And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.

∞ “this commandment” (as we covered in the Old and New Commandments study) is in reference to the “New Commandment” Jesus gave to His disciples:

John 13:34-35:

34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one

another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

☞ It can also be said the “one who loves God”, will also love Abraham’s descendants:

Genesis 12 (the very first time God spoke to Abram)

3 And I will bless those who bless you,

And the one who curses you I will curse.

And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

33 **Exposit: 1Jn 4:21**

☞ Abraham descendants according to the promise (Abrahamic Covenant) can be broken down into 2 groups:

☞ Israel (Jewish nation)

☞ Promise went from Abraham → Isaac → Jacob (Israel)

☞ Believers (Jew and Gentile Christians)

☞ Both groups are chosen (elect) of God

☞ Those who truly love God will love both groups and never hate them

☞ Past, present, future

☞ TRUTH: If a professed Jew claims to love God, including the end times, that confession can be tested by whether he loves Israel and Christians

☞ If not, God says your confession is empty, you are a liar, the truth is not in you, you do not belong to God, but belong to Satan