

This Is Love (Pt. 4)

1 John 4:7-21

- I. God's Unchanging Nature of Love (7b-8)
- II. God's Unparalleled Demonstration of Love (9-12)
- III. God's Unspeakable Gift of Love (13-21)
 - A. The Gift of the Holy Spirit (13)
 - B. The Work of the Holy Spirit (14-21)
 - 1. His Saving Work (14-16a)
 - a. The Spirit inspired the writers of the gospel (14).
 - b. The Spirit granted believers faith in the gospel (15)
 - c. The Spirit convinced believers of God's love through the gospel (16a)

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2. His Sanctifying Work (16b-21)

- a. The Spirit produces a mature understanding of God's love for us (16b-18).
 - He keeps the believer trusting in God's love in the gospel (16b).
 - He matures the believer's understanding of God's love (17-18).
 - The Reality of Mature Love (17a) – "love is perfected with us"
 - The Purpose of Mature Love (17b) – "by this, love is perfected, so that we may have confidence."
 - The Basis of Mature Love's Confidence (17c) – "because as He is, so also are we in this world."
 - The Argument for Mature Love's Confidence (18) – confidence in God's love removes the fear of judgment

The Argument for Mature Love's Confidence

1. Fear and love are totally incompatible (18a).
2. Fear of the judgment is based on fear of punishment (18b).
3. The one living in fear of the judgment has not matured in an understanding of God's love (18c).