

Six Priceless Facts about Love- I John IV

Introduction: V. 1 Try the Spirits—Spirits of truth and the spirit of error.

V. 2 Way to test or try the spirits— pre-existence and incarnation.

V. 3 This spirit is anti christ.

V. 4 There need not be any evading or softening "I have overcome the world.

V. 5-6- The World—the Devil

He giveth a test to distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

He says the teachers of the truth are heard and received by those who apprehend God, but refused by those who are not of God.

John 18:37—Jesus speaking to Pilate.

To the Test: The reception of the false teachers of the world---the reception by those that apprehended God and their rejection by those who are not of God.

I. THE ORIGIN OF LOVE V. 7-8

"Beloved"---with affection he turns his readers to another solomon exhortation.

Love is from God--He is the well-spring. He is the center of Love. Out of God.

Not only is Love of God, but "God is Love". Love is the very essence of God's character. That is the great central truth around which the whole system of Bible truth revolves. That is the great foundation truth upon which the whole of Christian doctrine is built.

II. THE MANIFESTATION OF THE LOVE OF GOD. V. 9-10

V. 9 Proof of His Love in sending his son.

Not as spectators, but in our behalf. By this one act things continue to be changed.

Only begotten--Live!

V. 10 This was all on God's Side, none on ours. This love was to us when we were enemies. Rom. 5:8

"In this love" --in this case, in this matter, in herein is found love. His Love to us!

"Not that we Loved God." No act of Love of ours to God at any time. But an act of His towards us, He proved it.

He not only sent--but He was a propitiation for our sins. God provided it himself.

Nothing having torment is perfect love. Fear is in us by nature and needs casting out. Torment means pain as the result of selfishness. Fear of judgement bears with it now even a foretaste of pain.

VI. THE NATURE OF LOVE V. 19

"We love because God first loved us--Love does not begin with our loving, but with God's loving. Not with our loving God, but with God's loving us."

Prayer meeting - Dec. 27, 1957

III-THE CHALLENGE OF GODS LOVE. V. 11

"Beloved" The same fervent and solemn address V.1,7. God so Loved us-V.10

"We ought"--(we on our side) on what side does the obligation rest?

Clearly, on that relation to God-if we are of God, that love which is in Him, will make us like him, causing us to love those that are begotten of Him. 5:1-2/

IV-WE HAVE PROOF OF GOD'S LOVE. VI2-16, 20-21.

By our love to them we can know how far we have love to him.

This love is reading maturity.

A token of this love abiding is that we are part-takers of His Holy Spirit.

V. 20- Love working as a principle.

HOW- can a man love God, the highest object of Love, Who is removed from his sight and at the same time refuse to love his brother?

Here is a man bearing the marks of a child of God.

"If any say"--He does not say you can not love what you can not see--But both terms Brother and God are used in the same limits of the Christian Life. This brother is begotten of God--He loves God, yet take another step--here is another begotten of God and hated. Matt. 22:37-39.

V. THE COMFORT OF LOVE. V. 18

There is no fear if love, but perfect love casteth our fear.

V. 17- (Perfect confidence) is given the believer--He is ready to face the great day of judgement.

It is love dwelling and advancing to perfection in us.

The grounds or reason of our confidence--as we are in this world we are like Christ and he will not condemn us in th that day. In other words, the truth on which our Love rests is we are in Christ, He lives in us, for without Him there can be no likeness of Him.

Casting out fear is the very work of Love. There is NO fear in Love!

Nothing having (torment is perfect love.) Fear is in us by nature and needs casting out.

Torment means pain, pain as the result of punishment, Fear of judgement bears with it now even a foretotele of pain.

VI. THE MOTIVE OF LOVE. V. 19

"We love because God first loved us"--Love does not begin with our loving, but with God's loving. Not with our loving God, but with God's loving us.

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