


1 John 4:7-11

Learning To Love Others
Because God Loves Us

February 14, 2010
Pastor Eric Douma




1st John Versus Gnosticism

Gnostic Doctrine:


1. Yahweh created everything evil (material world)
2. The high god created everything good (spirit)
3. Yahweh blinded man to their divine spark
4. The high god sent the redeemer to give gnosis


Gnostic Actions:


1. Gnostics gave proof of salvation by asceticism
2. Gnostics sinned to show salvation from the lower god's rules



1 st John Versus Gnosticism	
Gnostics	1 st John
Theology: Christ not human gave gnosis	Incarnate Son gave propitiation
Morality: Sin is good!	Righteousness!
Spirituality: Arrogant did not love	Humble must love


Outline
Prologue: 1:1-4 I. God Is Light (1:5-3:10) II. God Is Love (3:11-5:12) Conclusion: Christian Confidence (5:13-21)
<p style="text-align: center;">Love Used 27 Times (4:7-21)</p> 4:7-11 Love Others Because God Loved You 4:12-21 Love Others Because God Lives In You


Those Who Know God - Love
<u>1st John 4:7-8</u> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, For God is love.


Jesus: God's Love Manifested
<u>1 John 4:9</u> By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him.
<u>Luke 7:12</u> Now as He approached the gate of the city, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother...

Jesus Propitiated Our Sins


1st John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Propitiation or Expiation ?	
<u>Propitiation</u>	<u>Expiation</u>
Object: God	Man
Action: Apease	Cover + Remove Sin
<u>Leviticus 16:8</u> Then Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats; one lot for the LORD and the other lot for Azazel.	
<u>Leviticus 16:15</u> Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering, which is for the people, bring its blood inside the veil...sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat.	

Propitiation or Expiation ?


Exodus 32:14 So the LORD relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people.

Psalms 78:38 For their heart was not steadfast with Him, nor were they faithful to the covenant. But He, being full of compassion, **forgave** their iniquity, and did not destroy them. Yes, many a time He turned His anger away, and did not stir up all His wrath.




We Ought To Love One Another

1st John 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought to love one another.



Application

1. We must be “in Christ” to love others.
2. True believers, who have sound doctrine, love others.
3. True love involves sacrificing for others.



1. We Must Be In Christ To Love

John 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches; he who **abides in Me** and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

John 15:16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain...

2. Sound Doctrine Leads To Love

Challenge: “You evangelicals focus on doctrine, we focus on love.”

1st Corinthians 8:1-3 Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies. And if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, this one is known by Him.

3. True Love Involves Sacrifice

John 13:14-15 “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.”

John 15:12-13 “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.”
