

### Perfect Love Casts out Fear

### 1 John 4:16-21

John is constant in the Theme of Assurance 2:3—By this we may be sure that we know him . . . 2:5b—By this we may be sure that we are in him . . . 3:10—By this it may be seen who are the children of God . . .

3:14—We know that we have passed out of death into life . . .

3:19—By this we shall know that we are of the truth

3:24b—By this we know that he abides in us . . .

#### 1 John 4:16-21

4:2—By this you know the Spirit of God . . .
4:6b—By this we know the spirit of truth . . .
5:2—By this we know that we love the children of God . . .

5:13—I write this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you might know that you have eternal life.

Confidence before God erasing fear in our lives

### 1 John 4:16-21

"So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother."

### 1 John 4:16-21

### **1. Abide in the Source**

- not asking us to do what He is not providing for
- 40 times in 5 Chapters Love

a) Abide

- love flowing back and forth with you and God
- Greatest command Love God with all your...
- takes intention and effort remain in....
- abiding changes your belief and heart, which in turn changes your motives and actions

1 John 4:16-21

### b) Perfected

- we think perfect is flawless. Changing from the imperfect to without flaw or error
- word used implies mission accomplished, journey completed (John 19:28 'fulfilled')
- journey can be completed without being flawless

think – God's love experienced and shaping me put into action in life and relationships
does not remain ideas or talk, but practical and practiced

1 John 4:16-21

2. Confidence a) Day of Judgement - real thing – Heb. 9:27 - need to take it seriously – Mark 9:43-48 "And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched."

### 1 John 4:16-21

- see Matt.5:22, 10:28, 18:9 - for those that reject the offer of Jesus this is a distressing truth, sobering and serious b) You Have the Same Spirit as Jesus - face this world confidently - vs.4 "Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

- look at vs. 13-14

### 1 John 4:16-21

"By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world."

c) Confident in God's provision & forgiveness

Vs. 9-10 "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

### 1 John 4:16-21

d) Confident in Love that contains deed and truth 3:18-19 "Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him"

e) Evidence that assures us of abiding 3:14 "We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death."

### 1 John 4:16-21

- 3. No Fear in Love
  - climate of our world fear driven
  - relationships marked by fear abusive
  - self righteous religion brings fear of judgement
  - a) abiding in the Source removes fear
    - God is Love
    - God initiated
    - God provided payment & forgiveness
    - God invited you to respond & receive
    - God empowers & provides for your actions

1 John 4:16-21

4. Love & Hate a) Words without actions – empty or a 'lie' - cannot claim to abide and entertain hate - remember – God is source of forgiveness b) Your convictions about God evident - the proof of your delight and abiding in God is evident in your love of your brother - evident in all relationships c) Desire of God for us - command to love

### 1 John 4:16-21

### So What?

- 1. Take Care to Abide
  - open the flow to the Father, maintain it
  - love will change belief and actions
  - what you receive practice
- 2. Have Confidence
  - day of judgement a real thing
  - Spirit of God is in you face the world
  - Provision of God is yours know it and revel in it
  - See the clear evidence that assures us

### 1 John 4:16-21

### So What?

- 3. Deal with Fear
  - hold it up to the truth, take it to the source
  - evaluate convictions that breed fear surrender
  - know that God's love & care dispel fear
- 4. Allow what you discover to change relationships
  - deal with hatred
  - allow God to change your heart & actions