



First Epistle of John

1 John 4:14-16 - Redeeming Love Part 2

- Summary of *1 John 4:11-13 – Redeeming Love Part 2*
 - God's love for us is perfected when it is reproduced in us.
 - This love of God in us is mediated by His Spirit.
 - Roger – ‘The love of God displayed in His people is the strongest apologetic that God has in the world.’
- *1 John 4:14 - And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.*
 - What strikes you most about this verse and why?
 - *we have seen* – *theaomai*, perfect tense and indicative, to behold, look upon, **view attentively, contemplate**
 - This strongly points to something that happened previously with an abiding fact; and *we* likely refers to the apostles.
 - *and testify* - to be a witness, to bear witness, i.e., to affirm that one has seen or heard or experienced something
 - Of interest, John uses *testify* 40 times in his gospel and epistles.
 - And what was *seen* and *testified*?



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- How did John and now us today know that *the Father had sent the Son as Savior of the world?*
 - The written word!
 - » *1 John 1:1,4 - That which was from the beginning, which we **have heard**, which we **have seen** with our eyes, which we **have looked upon**, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life.....And these things we write to you that **our joy may be full.***
 - » *John 1:14 - And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we **beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.***
 - » *John 4:42 - Then they said to the woman, “**Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.**” (Samaritan woman).*
 - » *Rom 8:16 - The **Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,***
 - Just think how much faith we put in what we experience each/every day.
 - And now we have the written word of God!
- Now what about Jesus Christ being the savior?
- Vincent – ‘In classical writings the term is applied to many deities, especially to Zeus (Jupiter); also, to Hermes (Mercury), Apollo, Hercules, and even to female deities, as Fortune and Aphrodite (Venus). Wuest – ‘To recognize our Lord as the Savior of the world instead of the Emperor was a capital offence.’



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» *John 3:17 - “For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

- *1 John 4:15 - Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.*
 - Perhaps most important here is the true and deep-seated meaning of *confess* and why?
 - *confess* – *homologeō*, to profess or declare openly
 - What do you make of the tense and mood - aorist active subjunctive?
 - » *Rom 10:8-10 - But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach) that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*
 - Constable – ‘**Confessing** that Jesus is God's Son **is not the only condition for abiding in God**. It is one evidence that one is abiding. **One not abiding may or may not make this confession.**’
- *1 John 4:16 - And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.*



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- *And we have known and believed the love that God has for us.*
 - The verbs are perfect active indicative – something previously perceived, understood and intimate (*ginōskō*) and a fact that continues to manifested.
- *God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.*
 - Why is John so repetitive or perhaps redundant?
 - See *1 John 3:24-4:16*
 - Constable – ‘John's point in this section was that his readers had seen God in a sense similar to the sense in which the apostles had seen Him. The apostles had seen God in that they had seen Him in His Son, Jesus Christ. God had revealed His love to the apostles through Jesus Christ. The readers had seen God in that they had seen Him in His Spirit-indwelt abiding believers. **Consequently, John's readers could bear witness to the truth as the apostles did, and they could enjoy the same intimate fellowship with God as the apostles did.**’
 - Isn't this for identification, not just reading the word but having this new life lived out in us?
 - And this is the life manifested by the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - » *Rom 8:9 - But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of*



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*God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.
»1 Cor 2:12 - Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.*

