

## The Test of Love 1 John 4:7-12

**Beloved,** Address to the readers. What a great way to call the readers.

**let us love one another,** Basic command. This is at the heart of what it means to be God's people.

Why love? **because love is from God.** The cause and motivation for our love.

**And every one who is loving** An ongoing activity, a lifestyle. Notice the present tense. We can't pretty to love.

**has been born of God and knows God.** Intimate relationship with our creator. Some people claim to know God but are only fooling themselves.

**Anyone who is unloving has not known God,** Can't know God if we don't love each other.

Why can't we know God if we don't love? **because God is love.** If we don't love we can't know the heart of God.

**In this the love of God was revealed in us,** God's love is given to us and in us.

How has God revealed His love to us? **that he sent his only Son into the world** Jesus came to show us the depth of God's love.

Why did Jesus come? **in order that we might live through him.** Jesus is the source of life.

**In this is love,** How do we define love? There are many skewed ideas of love today.

**not that we have loved God** Love is not defined by what we can do.

**but that he himself loved us** This is the source of all good news.

**and sent his son as the means of atonement for our sins.** The separation between us and God because of sin is removed through what Jesus did on the cross for us.

**Beloved, if thus God loved us,** Look how much God loved us in Jesus!

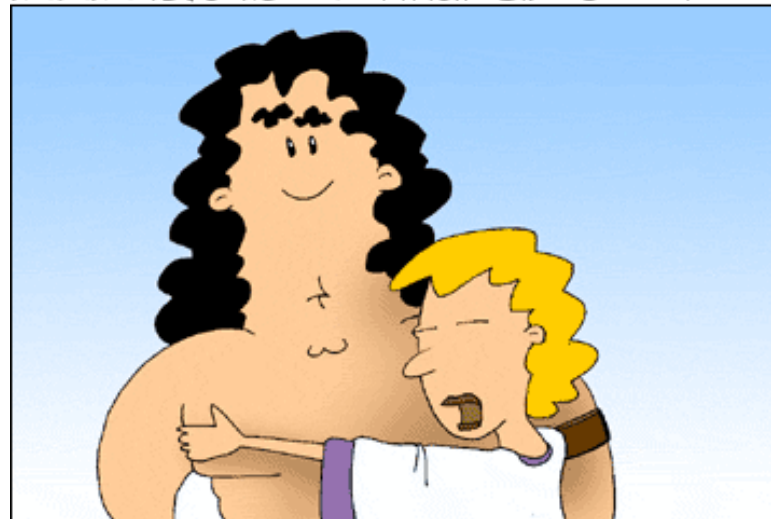
**we also ought to love one another.** If we don't love each other, do we really know God?

**No one has ever seen God.** How do you know that God exists?

**If we love one another,** This is a condition, which if true will lead to the result.

**God remains in us and his love has been perfected in us.** The end goal for us on earth is to let God's love fill us completed.

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Thanks to God's Servant (See Judges 16)

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OH SAMSON DARLING, I LOVE YOU TO DEATH  
... WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO KILL YOU?