

4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

4:8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

4:9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

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.

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

4:12 No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

From Today's Sermon.

Love of family, love between parents and children, love between husband and wife, love between friends, love between teacher and disciple, philanthropy.... Love, according to the dictionary, is “the love for one another” and “the love for all living things. According to the dictionary, “love” means “the heart that is devoted to one another,” “the heart that cares for and cherishes all living things,” “the heart that is dear to one another,” and “the affection that yearns for one another. The feeling of longing for one another.

It is a deep and warm heart that transcends personal feelings and desires happiness.

So how does the Bible explain love?

Love comes from God.” “God sent his only begotten Son into the world that we might live through him. We did not love God, but God loved us and sent his Son as an offering of atonement for our sins. Herein is love.”

Before speaking of our warm and tender hearts, the Bible says that “love” in the Bible comes from God, who in the beginning showed us His love, and gave us forgiveness by crucifying His only begotten Son as an atoning offering for sinful man.

Here we have the greatest example of love: “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” Here is the original of love. To know love that is from God, we need to be taught it by God, and the Bible tells us that it is the sacrificial love of the Son.

Good morning, everyone. It looks like the end of the rainy season will be declared today. And finally, the Paris Olympics will start and last for about 20 days.

In Kanto and other areas where the rainy season has already ended, the temperature is said to be as high as 35 degrees Celsius. Please be careful of heat stroke. Also, a new strain of coronavirus has emerged and is highly contagious. Please be careful.

We are reading through John 1.

In last week's passage, we had this.

4:1 Beloved, believe in me, and I will believe in you. Do not believe every spirit, but test them to see if they are from God. For many false prophets have come into the world.

4:2 And thus ye shall know the Spirit of God. 4:2 And ye shall know the Spirit of God: for every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God; and every spirit that confesseth not Jesus Christ is of God,

4:3 For every spirit that confesseth not Jesus is not of God. This is the spirit of the Antichrist. You have long heard that it is coming, and now it has already come into the world.

4:4 Children, be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind. Ye are of God, and ye have overcome them. For greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world. ...4:6 But we are from God. He who knows God hears what we say, and he who is not from God does not hear what we say. By this we know the distinction between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error."

The deceiving spirits play with us, draw us in, cause us to fall into sin, stray from the truth, and lead us astray in life. From such a life in the world, under the influence of deceiving spirits, we can live a life sustained by the Spirit of truth, by the Son who overcame the world, who is from God, who overcomes, who is stronger than our enemies in the world, who dwells in us, and in whom we trust, rely, teach, and practice a life of faith that overcomes the world. We have been taught from the Word of God that we are alive in this.

4:7 Beloved, let us love one another. Let us love one another. Love is from God. All who love are born of God and know God.

Verses 7 and 11 repeatedly speak to us, "O you who love."

The theme of today's passage is an invitation to a life in love.

He says, "Beloved, let us love one another. Let us love one another."

Love of family, love of parents and children, love of husband and wife, love of friends, love of teacher and disciple, philanthropy... the list is endless. Love has many forms. Love comes in many forms. We all know that love is a wonderful thing, but often the world seems to be dominated by a hopeless reality that is the opposite of love. War, killing, crime, hatred,

jealousy, bullying, social inequality, poverty.

There are times when years of efforts to create peace crumble in an instant and devolve into war. When I look at the tragic deeds of human beings, which are repeated over and over again, I wonder if human beings are capable of loving one another.

How does the Bible explain love?

Love is from God.”

This is a revelation. We think we love each other and create peace by our own strength, but we do not have the ability or material to love in us. We receive God's love, and with the grace and power from that original source, we are able to love.

He who loves all is born of God and knows God.”

He who loves all is born of God. Because we are born of God and born again, we are able to love. And he who loves knows God.

4:8 He who does not love does not know God. God is love.

Since love comes from God, we cannot know true love without knowing God. This is because God is love. Those who truly seek love will come to God. Because God is love. Those who do not know love do not know God. God is love. Those who know God can know what love is. Because God is love. We can know God on this basis. We can know God by this criterion: whether or not there is love. Because God is love. We also have a criterion for knowing whether a person knows God or not. That is, whether or not there is love in the person. By doing so, we can tell if a person really knows God or not. This is because God is love.

4:9 God sent his only begotten Son into the world that we might live through him. This reveals God's love for us.

And here is what God's love is like and at what level.

God sent his only begotten Son into the world that we might live through him.

He made us to live” means that we were unable to live. To be unable to live means that we were dying, that we were dead. This is written in Romans 7-8.

7:15 I do not know what I am doing. 7:15 For I do not do what I desire, but what I hate.

7:16 For if I do what I do not desire, I approve that the law is good.

7:17 Therefore it is no longer I who am doing this thing, but sin that dwells in me.

7:18 For I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing. For the will to do good is in me, but I have not the power to do it.

7:19 That is, the good which I desire, I do not do; but the evil which I do not desire, I do this.

7:20 For if I do what I do not desire, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

7:21 Then I see the law that evil has entered me who desires to do good.

7:22 For though as an inward man I delight in the law of God

7:23 And I see another law in my body, waging war against the law of my mind, and possessing me in the law of sin which is in my limbs.

7:24 What a wretched man I am! Who will save me from this body of death?

7:25 Shall I give thanks to God through our Lord Jesus Christ? Thus I myself serve the law of God in my heart, but in my flesh I serve the law of sin.

8:1 For this reason now he that is in Christ Jesus cannot be condemned.

8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death.

8:3 For what the law could not do, because it was made powerless by the flesh, God has done. For God has done what the law could not do because it was impotent in the flesh: He has sent His Son to be sin for sin in the flesh, to be punished for sin in the flesh.

8:4 That the requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not in the flesh but in the Spirit.

8:5 For he who follows the flesh thinks of the flesh, and he who follows the Spirit thinks of the Spirit.

8:6 For the mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the spirit is life and peace.

8:7 For the mind of the flesh is against God. 8:7 For the mind of the flesh is enmity against God: it does not obey, or cannot obey, the law of God.

8:8 And he that is in the flesh cannot please God.

8:9 But if the Spirit of God dwell in you, you are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of Christ.

8:10 For if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

8:11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also make alive your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwells in you.

Jesus was sent into the world for us to save us from our weakness, so that we could be cut off from sin and so that we could live. Through this sacrificial love of God, He has revealed His love.

4:10 For we have not loved God, but he loved us, and sent his Son as an offering of atonement for our sins. Herein is love.

It was because of our sin that we could not live. Because of our sins, we could not know God, who is love, and we lost all connection with Him. We should have made an effort to know God, to inquire of Him, to straighten ourselves before Him, to repent, and to establish a relationship with Him, but we failed to do so by offering sacrifices and obeying the law.

Romans 3:9 What then? Do we have any advantage? Absolutely not. We have already pointed out that both Jews and Greeks are under sin at every turn.

3:10 For it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one.

3:11 There is no enlightened man; there is no man that seeketh after God.

3:12 For all have gone astray, and all have become vain. There is none that doeth good, not one.

3:13 Their throats are open tombs; they deceive with their tongues, and the poison of the louse is in their lips,

3:14 Their mouth is full of cursing and bitter words.

3:15 Their feet are swift to shed blood,

3:16 In their way is destruction and misery.

3:17 And they know not the way of peace.

3:18 There is no fear of God before their eyes."

For us human beings who had no fear, no gratitude, no respect for God, who lived without fear of God and just bent to our own ideas, who did not respond to love with love, but with violation, rebellion, arrogance, irreverence and ungodly thoughts, God willingly sent His Son as a redemptive offering. Herein is love.

God's love is unconditional love, a love that transcends position. It is a perfect love that involves an inversion of the position of forgiver and forgiven, that involves only giving, only acting, only doing, and only with the greatest of sacrifices. God loved us, His rebellious people, out of love, giving up everything He could, loving us as precious and valuable, as loved ones,

as those who could not bear to lose, and giving us the sacrifice of His Son. Herein is love.

4:11 Beloved! Since God has loved us in this way, we ought also to love one another.

In this way, God has revealed His love to us in such a precious, powerful, and magnificent way that He offered His Son to love us and to seek us. Let us always remember that God loved us in this way. And let us take the love of God who loved us in this way as an example of our love, and let us be taught, and not only taught, but also put love into practice.

4:12 No one has yet seen God. If we love one another, God is in us, and His love is perfected in us.

No one has seen God in heaven, but if we live in the love of God shown through His Son Jesus, if we are in the love that comes from God, and if we practice that love, God is with us. And God's love is perfected in us. What an amazing teaching this is!

We have been searching for love, but we have been walking around groping for what is true love. Then God showed us the definitive version of love. God has shown us the definitive version of love, the fact that He sent His Son as an offering of atonement for our sins.

John 3:16 God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Since God loved us in this way, let us love one another. How to love is shown in Jesus.

2 Corinthians 8:9 Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. That is, He was rich, and yet He became poor for your sakes. That ye might be rich through His poverty.

1 Peter 2:18 O ye servants! Serve your masters with sincere fear. Do this not only to good and generous masters, but also to those who are hard to please.

2:19 If anyone suffers unjustly, but looks to God and endures it, it is a blessing.

2:20 For what credit is it if a man does evil and is beaten, and endures it? 2:20 But if you do good and suffer suffering, and yet endure it, this is what God will honor.

2:21 Ye have indeed been called to do so. 2:21 For Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example to follow in His footsteps.

2:22 For Christ sinned not, neither was there any deceit in His mouth.

2:23 He did not rebuke when he was rebuked, nor was he terrified when he was afflicted, but gave all things to Him who judges righteously.

2:24 And he took our sins upon himself on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. Through His wounds you have been healed.

2:25 For ye were gone astray as sheep, but now ye are returned unto Him that is the Shepherd and Counselor of the souls.

4:11 Beloved, God has loved us in this way. For as God so loved us, so we ought to love one another.

4:12 No one has yet seen God. If we love one another, God is in us, and His love is perfected in us.

In order that God, who is in the beatific vision, may perfect His love in us, we are simply in the love of God manifested by Jesus, and we desire to see it carefully, to model it, and to practice it as much as possible according to His example. We desire to go forward in both favorable and unfavorable winds, looking forward to seeing the power and work of Jesus at work at that time.

4:7 Beloved, we love one another. Let us love one another. For love is from God. All who love are born of God, and know God.

Prayer; Heavenly Father, thank you for today's worship. Thank you for teaching us of a world in which "here is love," a world of love in which "we did not love God, but God loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice for our sins," a love that comes from God, "to lay down one's life for one's friends, there is no greater love than this. Thank you for teaching us this. Please guide us this week so that God's love may be fulfilled in us through the practice of love. Please guide all sufferers into God's salvation and peace. Bless our families and the people in our community. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.