

January 4, 2020

## Love People-Part 1

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

It is clear throughout God's Word that the only way we can know true love is to know the One who is true love, God Himself. As we learn to love God more and more, we can then start to understand how to love others as we love ourselves. We will begin to see others like God sees them. He sees them as ones that He loves; so much so that He was willing to take on the form of man and die a cruel death with the weight of everyone's sins upon Himself! That's how much God loves!

In today's passage, we are called to love one another with the love that comes from being born of God and knowing God. (We will look at those two characteristics in the days to come). The only way this can happen is by being redeemed and having His Spirit residing in us. Love comes from God because He Is Love!

So...when you see others, you can begin to see that those who may seem unlovable, are in fact lovable through the eyes of God. We see imperfections; He sees perfect. We see strangers; He sees friends. In fact, it was spoken so wisely a few years ago at a conference I attended. "Many people look at people without Christ as enemies. They are not enemies! Satan is the enemy. They are the prize!"

That co-worker who seems to despise you; that in-law that seems to look at you with disgust; that bully at school that tries to harm you; they all seem to be enemies, but in fact, they are the prize. Can you love them like God does? Read the passage above again. Yes, you can! Why? Because God Is Love!