



1 John 4: 7-21

Why did Jesus come?

SUMMARY

Written by the apostle John, probably between 85 - 90 A.D. in Ephesus, to reassure Christians in their faith. John wrote about the most vital aspects of the faith so that his readers would know Christian truth from error. He emphasizes the basics of faith so that we can be confident in our faith. In our dark world, God is light. In our cold world, God brings the warmth of love. In our dying world, God brings life. When we lack confidence, these truths bring us certainty.

1 John 4:7-21

Immediately after his prayer in chapter one, Paul reminds the Ephesians of the reality of personal sin. Like them, we must never forget our past, the condition from which Jesus saved us. Those memories are the best fuel for our gratitude to Christ for all he has done for in our behalf.

Life Application Study Bible, New International Version. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011. Print. See commentary on 1 John book summary 'the blueprint'

Memory Verse:

1 John 4:10

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins

1 John 4:7-21 (translation: NIV)

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. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

13 This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 15 If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. 16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

1. To Save Us vs 10,14

- Ephesians 2:1-2 tells us that we were dead in our transgressions and sins. We needed saving!
- Verse 14 tells us that **the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world**
- Verse 10 shows us what love is, that God sent his son to take our place.

2. To Show Us vs 8-9,16

- John tells us who God is, in verses 8 and 16: **God is love.**
- Verse 9: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

3. To Change Us vs 11,21

- Colossians 1:22 - **"He has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him"**
- This love we have experienced from God should prompt us to love other
- Verse 21 notes that "Whoever loves God must also love his brother"

4. To Live in Us vs 12-13,16

- Verse 12: "If we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. "
- Verse 13: "By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit."