

Afraid to Love 1 John 4:7-19

Loved ones, let us love one another, because love is from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how the love of God is revealed to us: God has sent his one and only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the one through whom our sins are dealt with.

Loved ones, if this is how God loved us, we should also love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God dwells in us and his love is made perfect in us. 13 This is how we know we dwell in him and he dwells in us, because he has given to us from his Spirit. 14 We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the savior of the world. 15 If anyone confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwells in them and they dwell in God. 16 We have known and have trusted the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who dwell in love dwell in God and God dwells in them. 17 This is how love has been perfected among us, so that we can have confidence on the day of judgment, because just as God is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears has not been made perfect in love. 19 We love because God loved us first.



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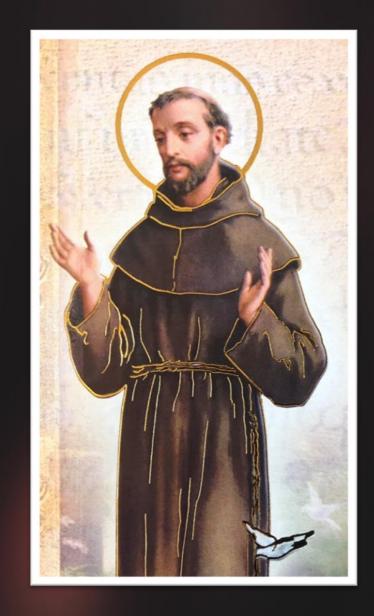


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Just as God is, so are we in this world.

"Who are you, God, and who am !?"

-St. Francis



Merciful (Deut 4:31) Jealous, devouring fire (Deut 4:24) **Just (Deut 32:4) Rock (Deut 32:18)** Gives us birth (Deut 32:18) **Gracious (2 Chron 30:9) Mighty (Job 36:5) Great (Job 36:26)** Our refuge and strength (Ps 46:1) King (Ps 47:8)

My helper (Ps 54:4) Our salvation (Ps 68:19) Holy (Ps 99:9) **Right (Dan 9:14)** With us (Matt 1:23) Father (Matt 6:9) **True (John 3:33)** Spirit (John 4:24) One (Rom 3:30) For us (Rom 8:31) Faithful (1 Cor 1:9) **Light (1 John 1:5)**

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GOD IS LOVE

(1 John 4:8 & 16)

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God is Not...

This is love: not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the one through whom our sins are dealt with.

No one has ever seen God.

When one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.

"All God's activity is loving activity. If God creates, God does it in love. If God rules, God does it in love. If God judges, God does it in love. God cannot help it – God is love."

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

There is **no fear in love**, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears has not been made perfect in love.

Loved ones, if this is how God loved us, we also ought to love one another.

We love because God loved us first.

No one has ever seen God. If we love one another, God dwells in us and his love is made perfect in us.



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