

## Love Sweet Love 1John 4:7-21

### Love Needed

Growing up - Jerry Lewis labor day telethon - "What the world needs now is Love, sweet Love"  
There Are Three Greek Words Translated Love In The N. T.

Thelo - "to will, to wish, to desire" - like or desire - **Mark 12:38**

Phileo - "to love, tender affection, cherish" - love of emotion or affection; never used in a command to love God: Song of Solomon - **John 20:2**

Agapao - "benevolence, charity, seeks goodwill toward the loved, prompts action" love of devotion; a love that can be developed by command - **John 13:35**

### Love Exemplified

Sacrifice of Jesus is ultimate example of such love. - **John 15:13; Romans 5:6-8**

His example teaches we can 'love' unlovable, even enemies. - **Matthew 5:43-48; Romans 12:18-21**

Includes "tough" love

God's blessing & punishment toward Israel - **John 8-9**

Between mercy toward the adulterous woman and the compassion in healing the blind man we see the justice and righteous anger of Jesus toward the Jewish leaders.

God loves enough to correct us when we are wrong

### Love Required

We must show love - **Matthew 22:37; John 13:34-35; 1John 5:3**

We need to develop the better way - **2Peter 1:5-8; 1Corinthians 12:31; 13:1-13**

*(1-3) Our work and service is worth nothing if not prompted by love*

*(4-7) Such love looks outward rather than inward.*

Wellbeing of others sought. Better to suffer loss than lose another.

Removes greed, jealousy, hatred, racism, covetousness, selfishness, arrogance, competition.

Focus on helping, growing, encouraging, supporting, enduring.

*(8-13) Love endures all*

Time nor distance can stop it. The closer we are to our brethren and the Lord the greater our love will be. One day our faith will be sight, our hope will be gained, and love will remain.

### Love God (Deity)

God - **Matthew 22:37; 1John 2:4-5; 5:3**

Jesus - **1Corinthians 16:22; John 14:15-17**

Holy Spirit - the Comforter - **John 16:13-14**

### Love Man

Brethren - **John 13:34-35; Ephesians 4:32; James 2:14-17; 1John 4:20-21; Hebrews 13:1; 1Peter 1:22**

Neighbor

"No chore love whole world; real problem neighbor next door."

If we love; we seek his benefit spiritual and physical - **Matthew 22:39; Luke 10:27-29; Romans 13:9-10**

Enemies - **Matthew 5:44-45; Romans 12:20-21**

Most difficult, but must be done

### The Better Way

Greatest Of All - **Matthew 22:40**

First four governs man's relationship to God; Last six governs man's relationship to man

It is universal - **John 13:35**

All can see it and understand

Love precedes all scriptural obedience; is permanent - **1Corinthians 13**

It must be cultivated and increased daily - Doesn't happen by itself!