

## 1 John 4:12-20 | Love's Assurance

---

### Banner statement: the assurance of those who love one another

<sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, [1] God abides in us and [2] his love is perfected in us.

#### [1] Knowing God abides with us:

##### [A] God gave us his Spirit:

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

##### [B] We confess our trust in Jesus:

<sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

<sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16a</sup> So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us.

##### [C] We love our fellow believers:

<sup>16b</sup> God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

#### [2] God's perfected love in us gives us confidence before his judgment:

<sup>17</sup> By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

### Conclusion:

<sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.