***In Times Like These - James, Peter, John, Jude***

**Lesson 20**

**What’s Love All About?**

Read I John 4

 Memory Work: I John 4:10,11.

 1.a. Why are believers to test the spirits?

 b. How do you test the spirit?

 c. How would you know if you were hearing the truth? Also see II Timothy 3:15-17.

 d. How would you know if it was a lie?

 e. What kind of a spirit does a false teacher have? Verse 3.

 f. What is an anti-christ. . .and his message? See Lesson 18 or I John 2:18,22.

 2. As a child of God, if you become fearful, what do you need to remember? Verse 4.

 3. Compare yourself with what is mentioned in verses 5,6; do you know the spirit of truth versus the spirit of error. . .how?

 4.a. From verses 7-11, what is the repeated word that sets Christians apart?

 b. What event began this? Verses 9,10.

 c. What does it mean to say that God is love? I John 4:8,16.

d. T/F Love is God. Explain.

Review What does propitiation mean again? I John 2:2

Think about What common misinterpretations are made of the Biblical teaching that God is love?

 5.a. What does it mean to abide in Christ? I John 4:12-16.

 b. Why do we find this difficult to do at times. . .perhaps impossible?

 c. What is the meaning of “perfected love?” I John 4:12,17.

 d. How is love perfected in us?

Think about e. God’s love for us cost Him His Son. What might it cost you to love someone who is difficult to

 love? Ephesians 4:31,32; John 15:13.

 6. If God’s love is made complete or perfected in us, what are some of the results?

 Verse 17

 Verse 18

 7.a. How does fear create torment?

 b. Do you have fears about God, other people, or circumstances? Also see Luke 12:1-12, 22-34.

c. What is wrong with being a people pleaser. . .Whom are you living to please?

 d. How could I John 4:4 (and the rest of this chapter) help you to let go of those fears? Also Philippians

 4:6-8.

 e. Where does fear come from? II Timothy 1:7.

 f. How might our choices be different, as well as our actions, if we weren’t afraid?

 8.a. Why is it impossible to love God without loving other believers? Verse 20.

 b. How or why does God loving us lead to our loving others?

 c. Why and how does a true Christian love God?

Evaluate d. Is this true of you?

 9. Explain verse 20 and 21 in your own words.

Think about 10 What is the difference between loving God and loving ice cream?