

Love the God Who is Love
Love the Love Series (Part 2)

1 John 5:1-4; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; August 8, 2021

¹ Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and whoever loves the Father loves the *child* born of Him. ² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and observe His commandments. ³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome. ⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. – 1 John 5:1-4

The Fruit of Believing the Love of God for Us

What should be the result of knowing and believing the love of God for us?

Result #1: We fix our hope on God's love for us. - Psalm 33:18; 42:8, 11

Result #2: We love. – 1 John 4:19

When we see that we are loved by God in Christ, we *love the love* we see! And this happens in these respects:

- We love the God who is love.
- We love the law of God that is love.
- We love to love like God loves.

The Love of God

On the whole, God's love for us is a much safer subject to think about than our love for Him. - CS Lewis

Every Christian would agree that a man's spiritual health is exactly proportional to his love for God. – CS Lewis

What is love for God?

**We love God by being *pleased with God* above all
and living to *please God* above all.**

“Our love includes four things: rest, delight, reverence, and obedience.” – John Owen

‘Rest’ and ‘delight’ would be one way of talking about ‘being pleased with God’ and
‘reverence’ and ‘obedience’ would be one way of talking about ‘pleasing God.’

He pleases God whom God pleases. – Augustine

This could mean (1) those who are pleased with God live to please God and/or (2) those who are pleased with God are pleasing to God. Both are true!

*“This is the essence of what it means to love God: to be satisfied in him. In him — not just his gifts, but God himself, as the glorious person that he is! Loving God will include *obeying* all his commands; it will include *believing* all his word; it will include *thanking* him for all his gifts. But all that is overflow. The essence of loving God is admiring and *enjoying* all he is. And it is this enjoyment of God that makes all of our other responses truly glorifying to him. We all know this intuitively as well as from Scripture. Do we feel most honored by the love of those who serve us from the constraints of duty, or from the delights of fellowship? – John Piper, *What It Means to Love God**

Some Scriptures Highlighting Being Pleased with God

Job 34:9; Genesis 5:24; Deuteronomy 4:29; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Acts 17:27; Romans 3:11; Jeremiah 24:7; John 17:3; Jeremiah 9:23-24; Psalm 23:6; Psalm 27:4; Psalm 34:8; Psalm 42:1-2; Psalm 43:4; Matthew 5:8; Matthew 6:24; Psalm 16:11; Psalm 73:25-28; 2 Thessalonians 3:4; James 4:1-5; Psalm 17:14-15; Psalm 63:5; Psalm 65:4; Psalm 84:1-2; Psalm 90:14; Isaiah 55:2; Matthew 13:44; Deuteronomy 21:14; Esther 2:4; John 17:25-26; 1 John 2:15; Revelation 22:3-4; Luke 7:44-47

Some Scriptures Highlighting Pleasing God

Hebrews 11:5-6; Psalm 5:4; Psalm 40:8; Matthew 3:17; Luke 2:14; John 8:29; Romans 8:8; 2 Corinthians 5:9; Galatians 1:10; Ephesians 5:10; Colossians 1:10; 1 Thessalonians 2:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:1; 1 John 3:22; John 10:11; John 15:13; 1 John 3:16; Romans 12:1-2; Romans 6:12-14; 1 John 2:3-6; 1 John 5:2-3; Genesis 29:20

Is love for God all about our feelings?

No, it includes our feelings, but it is more about being pleased with God and living to please God.

Being pleased with God is the whole issue regarding idolatry (the worship of other things besides God) and the proper worship of God. – Romans 1:25

And so my heart was at rest. I was satisfied with God. And all this springs, as I have often said before, from taking God at his word, believing what he says. – George Mueller

We must begin by turning from sin and trusting in the only One who was perfectly pleased with God and who perfectly lived to please God:

Jesus Christ. – Matthew 3:16-17