

## 1 John 4:1-16 • The Bottom Line of Love

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1. (v.1-6) Biblical love without biblical **truth** is impossible because biblical love is defined by biblical **truth**. The regenerate Believer has the foundation of “*the spirit of **truth***” whereas those still in the world operate on “*the spirit of **error***”.
2. (v.7-8) The proof that someone truly knows God is proven by their application of the **truth** of God’s **Word** to such a degree that they began to take on the loving character and nature of **God**.
3. (v.9-11) The proof that someone has truly been transformed by the **cross** is proven by a new **life** which increasingly **loves** more and more in the character and truth of the **love** Christ expressed on that **cross**. (Make note of 1 Jn. 4:9, 2 Co. 5:15 & 1 Th. 5:9-10)
4. (v.12-16) God’s love is **proclaimed** in His Word, **proved** at the cross, **perfected** in the Believer.

### **Overall Application:**

- 1 Jn. 4:15—The Believer is a **witness** that Jesus Christ is God’s Son.
- 1 Jn. 4:13—The Holy Spirit is a **witness** in each Believer.
- 1 Jn. 4:14--The application of love in the Believer **witnesses** that God is love and that He sent His Son to die for the world.