

LO

I JOHN 4:10-19

VE

You cannot love God.

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

I John 4:10

not that we loved God

1. He begins with the negative.

– *Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.* Ephesians 2:3

– *Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.*

Colossians 1:21

– *All have sinned, and fallen short.*

Romans 3:23

2. Loving God does not begin with you.

but that He loved us

1. God first loved you.

- *But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"* Genesis 3:9
- *But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him ; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.* Luke 15:20
- *We love because he first loved us.*
I John 4:19

2. In fact, if there is anything good in you, any love, it is a reflection of God's love.

- Not only is God's love primary but what love a believer does have is a reflection of God's love.
- It is not your goodness that matters but the supreme quality of God's love.
- God's love was prompted not by man's love for God but God's love for man.

and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins

1. God took the initiative to love you by sending his Son.
 - *his Son*, the only begotten
 - *as an atoning sacrifice*
 - *for our sins*
2. Amazing Love
3. Allow God to love you.
 - Receive Jesus into your life.
 - Begin with God, and allow God to change you.



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