

SAVIOR OF THE WORLD

1 John 4:7-16a

Calvary Church of Pacific Palisades

December 12, 2010 ♦ Sunday Morning Worship

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vv. 7-16a True nature of love ... Not enough to feel it, not enough to say it, love moved God to action. GOD'S Love expressed through Jesus **does something TO US** ... from death to life; **FOR US** ... breaks the power of sin; **IN US** ... empowers by SPIRIT so we might live as Jesus lived.

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

vv. 7,8 Summary of argument ... WHAT 1 CORINTHIANS 13 IS TO PAUL, 1 JOHN 4:7,8 IS TO JOHN ... PAUL ... Without love, Knowledge, service, spiritual giftedness; amounts to nothing. JOHN ... Love for God and one another is proof that we love God and know God personally (experience) John had heard Jesus say *"by this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."* Love is the highest Goal, the greatest pursuit, distinguishing mark of every Christian ...

If love comes from God, the primary demonstration of that love was through sending Jesus.

v. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

True nature of love ... takes action. More than feelings, more than words ... LOVE makes SACRIFICES.

God SENT His one and only Son into the world ... that we might live through Him. v. 9

Sent. Three times ... giving of Jesus purposeful. It was intentional. It was urgent. It was extravagant.

"one and only", John 3:16 Only -begotten. WHO HE IS ... no one else like Him UNIQUE.

"Son" ... deity, John 1:1,14. Word was God ... Word became flesh ... One and Only.

"that we might live through Him." WHY HE CAME. We were dead. Spiritually dead, Ezek = stone cold.

Ill. The Power of Half ... sacrifice, give up.

Lovers are defined by what they give ... God gave more than half, God gave it all.

Jesus Christ, God's Son, was sent to give us life ... God wants us alive, not dead.

John 10:10 ... 1 John 5:11,12.

SO WHAT??? Dying? Bored, listless, useless. Alive to his purposes ... love poured out on us.

This Christmas, LOVE like God. Defined by what you give, or by what you get. Sacrifices?

¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

God SENT His one and only Son into the world ... that we might live through Him. v. 9

God SENT His Son ... as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. v. 10

"Our sins" ... John aware of his sin, No way he could get rid of it.

No matter how hard we try and get rid of the stain of sin, only Jesus can wash us and cleanse.

Sinless man (no fault), falsely accused, wrongly sentenced, put to death as a criminal. Lamb of God.

Miscarriage of Justice? From our perspective, but from God's he understood perfectly. Not that it did not grieve Him. God knew that this was all about justice. Not justice on earth, but in heaven.

His righteous demands had to be satisfied. Only a perfect sacrifice would do. So God sent His Son.

Jesus Christ, God's Son, was sent to pay for our sin ... God wants to remove the stain.

Jesus did for us what we could not do for ourselves, something no one else could do for us.

SO WHAT? Admit, confess, acknowledge sin and trust Jesus to cleanse you from it. Receive Forgiveness.

Like John, OUR sins = Confess. He is the only one who can remove the stain. Spotless.

God SENT His one and only Son into the world ... that we might live through Him. v. 9

God SENT His Son ... as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. v. 10

God SENT sent his Son ... to be the Savior of the world. v. 14

¹³ We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. ¹⁶ And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God sent His son. Imagine what that would be like ... Tallant, Roberts, Gregory

Not just a savior ... THE savior. What He is (HIS NAME) as well as what He came to do.

Not just for a few ... THE World ... dying, in need of a Savior. No one is excluded. God opened His arms.

¹ John 2:1,2 Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Jesus Christ, God's Son, sent the Spirit to live in us ... to give us power to love as He loves. v. 13

JESUS IS the only point of communication between heaven and earth, nothing can separate.

The Holy Spirit ... regenerating power of God. Inexhaustible power. POWER OF LOVE.

If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God.

Conclusion:

Crying out for Savior? God loved us and sent His son ... Come alive, forgive sin, transform.

Sent Jesus to do something to us, for us and in us; what we were powerless to do for ourselves.

Put Spirit in our hearts, new life, rebirth, resurrection. Power that comes from Him.

SO WHAT? He would have come if it had just been you, but His coming is not just for you and me, but for everyone who by faith receives Him ... John 1:12

Receive the gift. We worship him, bow down. Along with angels and wise men.