

1ST JOHN 4:16-19 #15

1. IN VERSE 16 JOHN INTRODUCES A NEW THOUGHT, IN 1ST JOHN 1:5 WE LEARNED THAT GOD IS LIGHT, NOW ONE OF THE MOST MEMORABLE AND QUOTED VERSES IN THE BIBLE, "GOD IS LOVE"!

2. WE ARE TO RESPOND TO THIS LOVE AND GRACE, TO KNOW IT BY EXPERIENCE, TO BELIEVE IT AND TO SHARE IT WITH OTHERS. THIS IS WHAT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP IS ALL ABOUT.

3. IN VERSES 17-18, JOHN DISCUSSES THE END TIMES, THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT THAT WE MAY APPROACH THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT WITHOUT FEAR.

4. TWO JUDGEMENTS: THE JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST (THE BEMA) THIS IS FOR BELIEVERS, FOR REWARDS READ 2ND CORINTHIANS 5:10. THE GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGEMENT, THE FINAL JUDGMENT FOR NON-BELIEVERS IS FOUND IN REV. 20:11-15. JUDGMENT IN TWO SENSES: 1. CONDEMNATION...GREAT WHITE THRONE 2. REWARDS...JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST.

5. VERSE 19: THE REASON FOR OUR LOVE IS BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US. THIS ECHOES WHAT JOHN SAID BACK IN VERSE 10: "HEREIN IS LOVE, NOT THAT WE LOVED HIM, BUT THAT HE LOVED US, AND SENT HIS SON TO BE THE PROPITIATION FOR OUR SINS".

6. NOW IN VERSE 19, JOHN DECLARES THE HEART OF EVERY TRUE BELIEVER AND FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST, SIMPLY, BOLDLY, THAT WE LOVE HIM.