

Leader

1 John 4:16,17 (ESV)

¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world.

Cong.

1 John 4:18-19 (ESV)

¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

¹⁹ We love because he first loved us.

Leader

1John 4:20-21 (ESV)

²⁰ If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

²¹ And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.



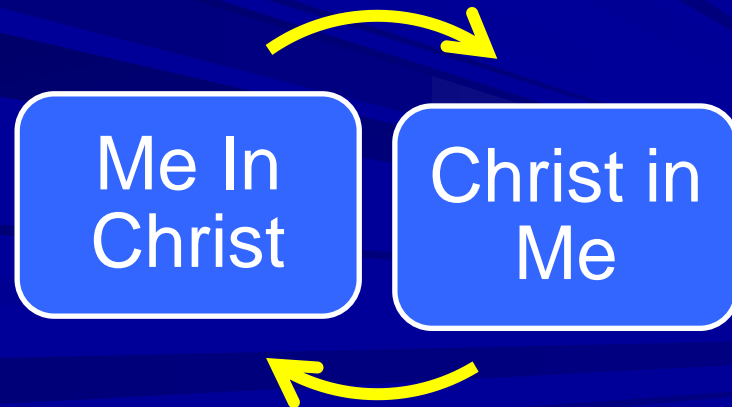
Perfect Love Casts Out Fear
1 John 4:16-21

Theme: Perfect love casts out fear (and hate) and replaces it with confidence and love.



Love is perfected with us ... (4:16,17)

- As we **know** and **believe** God's love.
 - God is love!
- As we **abide** in God and in love.
- By **this** love is perfected with us...



Love is perfected with us ... (4:16,17)

- ...Means love is **matured** in us & reached it's **goal** in us. [gk. *Telos*]
- ...Results in “confidence for the day of judgment” Heb. 9:27,28
 - Confidence = “bold freedom to say all”



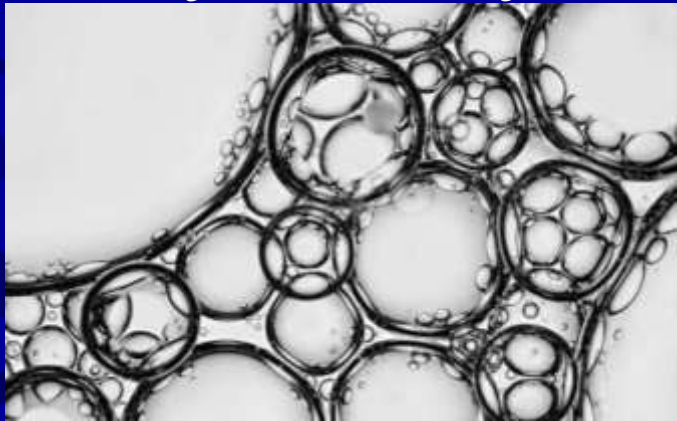
Confidence for the day of judgment (4:18)

- ...Because as He is so are we in this world
 - Rejected by world
 - Accepted by God
- ...Because there is no fear in love



Confidence for the day of judgment (4:18)

- **Pr.1** But perfect love casts out fear
 - Fear has to do with punishment
 - One who fears not perfected in love
- **Exodus 20:20** Don't be afraid...that the fear of God may be in you...& not sin.
- **Psalms 130:4** There is forgiveness with you so you may be feared.



Confidence for the day of judgment (4:18)

■ Prov. 29:25 Fear of man brings a snare

- Fear of failure
- Fear of tragedy
- Fear of confrontation

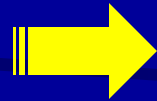
■ ...but he that **trusts** in the Lord will be exalted.

- The opposite positive (love) casts out the negative.

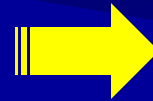
We love because He loved us 4:19-21

- Pr.2 We love because He first loved us.
- Perfect love casts out fear *and* hate.
- Saying “I love God (but hating brother) = liar”

God
loves
us



We have
confidence
vs. fear



We
love
others