Earnings

- Earn = "gain deservedly in return for one's behavior or achievements"
- What are examples of things people earn, and what they did to earn them?
- What effect does earning something have on...
 - Those who get it?
 - Those who don't?
- This is true of religion
- This is deeply contrary to Christianity. Why?

Loved by God 1 John 4:7-14

Brown/English: Page 1230 White/Spanish: Page 1559 Red/Chinese: Page 1981

1 John

- A letter from the Apostle John (Jesus' closest friend)
 - Eusebius (265-340 AD, Greek historian)
 quotes Irenaeus (130-200 AD, bishop of Lyons)
 who knew Polycarp (69-155 AD)
 who was mentored by John (maybe 6-100 AD)
- Wrote to people who were affected by false teaching
- Emphasized reality of the Son of God becoming a human being, and the implications for those who trust Him

1 John

- John didn't write by an outline (expository writing)
- Perhaps more like music: "theme and variations"
- 1 John 4:7-21: a very rich paragraph
 - Two powerful ideas intertwined
 - This week and next...

1 John 4:7-14 7-8: Since God is love, those in God must love 9-10: 11-12: 13-14:

- God is love
 - God continually gives of himself to others and seeks their benefit
 - even when they don't deserve it
- A God who *does and is* **self-giving love** is only found in the Bible

1 John 4:7-14

7-8: Since God is love, those in God must love

9-10: Love: God taking action in human form

→ paid the ultimate price (death) for our good

11-12:

13-14:

Propitiation

- English Standard Version and Reina-Valera (Spanish):
 Propitiation
 - Propitious = favorable, a sign of future success
- New International Version:

Atoning sacrifice

 "a sacrifice that takes away God's wrath and turns it to favor"

1 John 4:7-14

- 7-8: Since God is love, those in God must love
- 9-10: Love: God taking action in human form

 → paid the ultimate price (death) for our good
- 11-12: God's presence is found in His people loving people with God's love
- 13-14: We testify to His love enacted in Jesus Christ

The Big Idea

LOVES DAILY AND FOREVER
God loved us

even when we did not love Him

SINCE HE GAVE giving His Son as a sacrifice

so we could truly live



• Knowledge
• Conviction
--> DEEPLY HELD BELIEF
• Application

GOD LOVES ME
DAILY AND FOREVER
IN TESUS CHRIST

Implications

- · Rejoice in this love of God for us
 - God continually gives of himself to us and seeks our benefit
 - He doesn't just do loving things. He IS love!
 - Once God adopts us as we come through faith,
 we are the recipients of His complete love forever

Implications

- Rejoice in this love of God for us
- Rest in His love
 - Some of us in Christ...
 - are weary of trying to please God
 - work very hard for God for fear that we won't be pleasing to Him
 - carry the weight of guilt and regret
 - worry about what the future will bring
 - fear that we aren't good enough, don't have enough faith, aren't accomplishing enough, not gifted enough, ...
 - Having begun by faith and grace, we live as if by works

Be still and know that God still loves you in Christ!

This is not a tag that you wear It is your <u>identity forever</u> if you are "in Christ"



"After beginning by faith, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?"

Galatians 3:3

"He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"

Romans 8:32

The Big Idea

God loves me daily and forever in Christ
even when I do not love Him as I should
since He gave His Son as a sacrifice
so I can truly live