



## THE FACTS ABOUT LOVE

JULY 8, 2024

**1 JOHN 4:20 NKJV – (20)** If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

This verse is the fourth of five times John mentions liars in this letter (**1 John 1:10; 2:4, 22; 4:20; 5:10**). Love for others, especially fellow Christians, is a primary commandment from Christ. So, a person who exhibits hate for others, but claims to know God, is lying. A liar says he knows God but does not keep His commands (**1 John 2:4**). A liar denies Jesus is the Christ (**1 John 2:22**). Here, we are told that a liar says he loves God but hates other people.

The second part of the verse adds an explanation, moving from the "seen" to the "unseen." It is more difficult to love someone you cannot see than someone you can see. If a person cannot love those they see, they cannot reasonably claim to love those they cannot see. This verse explicitly declares that a person cannot truly love God while hating other people. The person who claims to love God must also show love for others.

**THE FACTS IS SIMPLY THIS:** Love Is **Unspeakable** – (**ROMANS 8:38-39**); It Is **Unending (ETERNAL)** (**JEREMIAH 31:3**) - I have loved you with an everlasting love! God's love is eternal! It Is **Unselfish** - It asks for nothing in return! However, it leads man to repent and turn to God in love – (**ROMANS 2:4; 1 JOHN 4:19**) - We love him because He first loved us!

It Is **Unmerited** - Cannot be earned or deserved! (His love is based on His grace!) (Jesus and Jerusalem) - **MATTHEW 23:37**. It Is **Unconditional** - It is not based on what we can or cannot produce, it comes from the heart of God. Man can never reach a place when he will not be loved by God! God loved us first, He loved us anyway and He loves us eternally! **His love is Supernatural, it is Sacrificing, it is Satisfying!**

SCRIPTURE READING: **NAHUM 1:7**

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Father, "You are my heart, my life, my one and only thought."