

## 1 John: The Signs of Life

## 1:1-2:2 Summary (“Fellowship”)

- 1:1-4, Objective: Fellowship
- 1:5-2:2, Obstacle: Sin

## 2:3-5:12, Exposition (“Know”)

## 2:3-28, First Panel

- :3-6, Righteousness
- :7-17, Love
- :18-28, Belief

## 2:29-4:6, Second Panel

- 2:29-3:10, Righteousness
- 3:11-24, Love
- 4:1-6, Belief

## 4:7-5:12, Third Panel

- 4:7-18, Love
- 4:19-5:4, Righteousness
- 5:5-12, Belief

## 5:13-22, Closing Summary and Exhortation

# The Third Panel of Signs

## Things to Look For

- What relation between us and God does John emphasize in 4:7-10?
- How about in 4:11-16?
- Compare and contrast these relations.
- How does 4:12a challenge the claims of 4:7-10?
- How does the rest of 4:12 answer this challenge?
- Discuss the possible meanings of “his love” in 4:12.
- What does it mean for “his love” to be “perfected” in us?
- In 4:13, what shows that we dwell in God, and he in us?
- Why does John mention the gift of God’s Spirit in this verse?

# Sign of Love #3

## 4:7-18, the Sign of Love

7-10, from our Birth

- 7a, Summary (vocative):  
“love one another”
- 7b-8, God’s Love,  
Shared by Birth
- 9-10, God’s Love  
Demonstrated

11-16, from our Abiding

- 11, Summary (vocative):  
“love one another”
- 12-13, Dwelling in God
- 14-16a, God’s Love  
Demonstrated
- 16b, God’s Love,  
Shared by Abiding

17-18, Assurance

7 **Beloved**, let us love one another:

for love is of God;

and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

8 He that loveth not knoweth not God;

for **God is love**.

9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. 10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

11 **Beloved**, if God so loved us, **we ought also to love one another**.

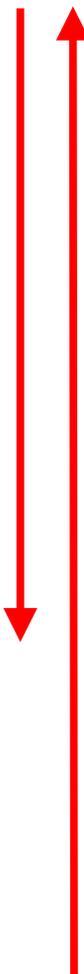
12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because that he hath given us of his Spirit.

14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. 15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. 16a And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us.

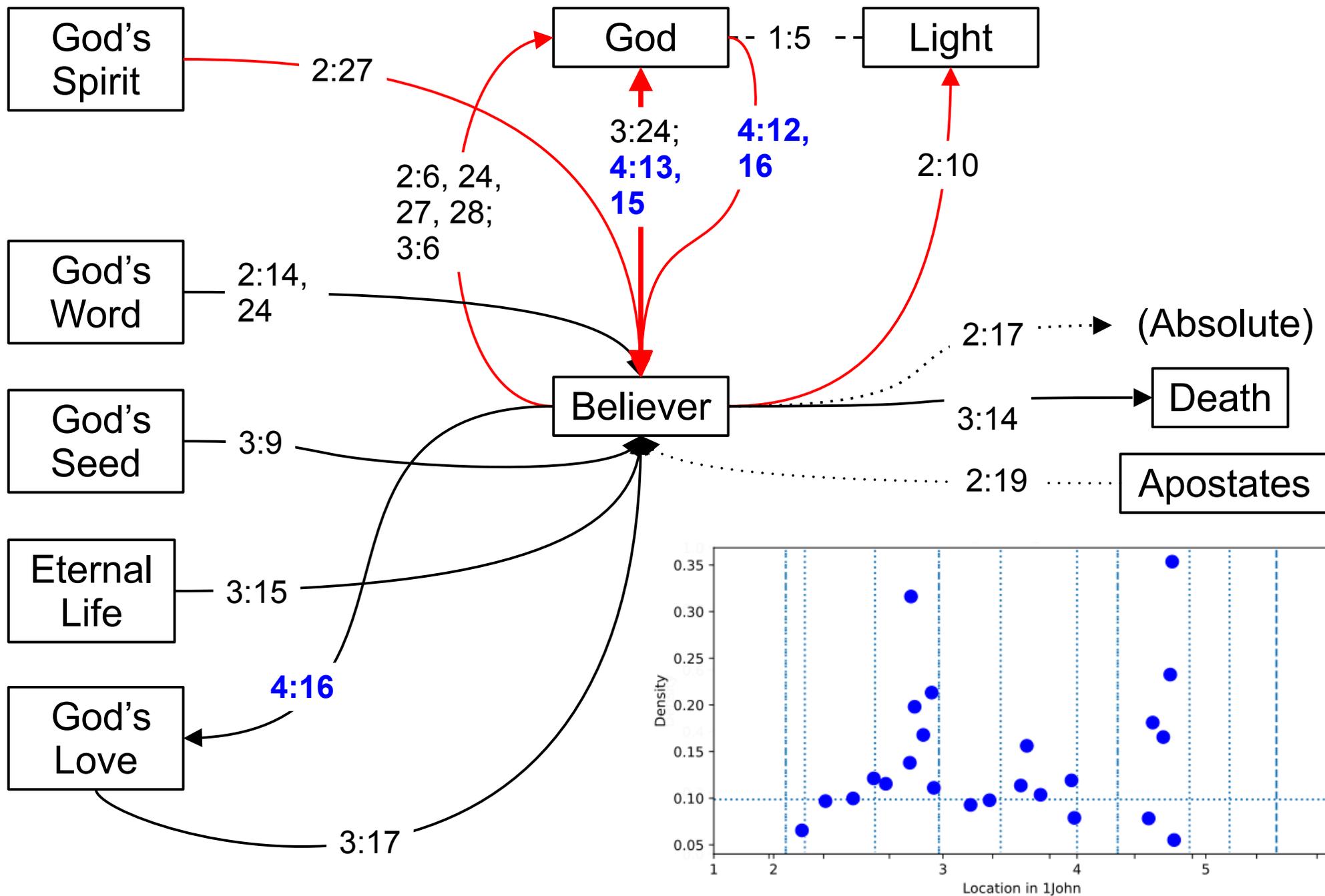
16b **God is love**;

and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

# Chiasm across 4:7-16

	7-10		11-16
Heading	7 <b>Beloved</b> , let us <b>love one another</b> :		11 <b>Beloved</b> , if God so loved us, we ought also to <b>love one another</b> .
God's Nature Defined & Shared	for love is of God; and every one that loveth is <b>born of God</b> , and <b>knoweth God</b> . 8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for <b>God is love</b> .		16b <b>God is love</b> ; and he that <b>dwelleth</b> in love <b>dwelleth in God</b> , and God in him.
God's Nature Demonstrated	9 In this was manifested <b>the love of God toward us</b> , because that <b>God sent his only begotten Son</b> into the world, <b>that we might live</b> through him. 10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.		14 And we have seen and do testify that <b>the Father sent the Son</b> to be <b>the Saviour</b> of the world. 15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God <b>dwelleth</b> in him, and he in God. 16a And we have known and believed the <b>love that God hath to us</b> .
Credible Witnesses to God's Nature			12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God <b>dwelleth</b> in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 Hereby know we that we <b>dwell</b> in him, and he in us, <del>because</del> that he hath given us of his Spirit.

# The Verb “Abide” (μένω *menō* G3306) in 1 John



# Seeing the Invisible God (4:12ff)

**12 No man hath seen (θεάομαι *theaomai* G2300) God at any time**

Jhn 1:18 **No man hath seen (ὄραω *horaō* G3708) God at any time**; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

1Jn 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have **heard**, which we have **seen** with our eyes, *horaō* which we have **looked upon**, *theaomai* and our hands have **handled**, of the Word of life;

Jhn 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

**If we love one another ...**

	<b>1 John 2:5</b>	<b>1 John 4:12-13</b>
Condition	<b>Whoso</b> keepeth his word	<b>If</b> we love one another
Perfect love	In him is the <b>love</b> of God <b>perfected</b>	His <b>love</b> is <b>perfected</b> in us
Assurance	<b>Hereby we know</b> that we are in him.	<b>13 Hereby know we</b> that we dwell in him, and he in us, ...

## **Love of God: Subjective or Objective?**

Subjective: 1 Jn 4:10, he loved us and sent his Son ...

Objective: Jhn 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

## **Love Perfected (completed) ...**

Deu 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with **all** thine heart, and with **all** thy soul, and with **all** thy ~~might~~ wealth.



1 John 4:12  
12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another,  
God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

How many men have seen God?

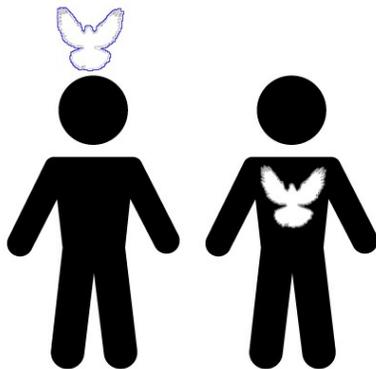
# 4:13 ... he hath given us of his Spirit

**Hereby know we ...**

Jhn 13:35 By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

## **The Upper Room Promise**

Jhn 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth **with** you, and shall be **in** you.



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<a href="https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/hand-drawn-flying-dove-silhouette\_151157495.htm">Image by freepik</a>

## **The Old Testament Reality**

Jdg 3:10 And the Spirit of the LORD **came upon** [Othniel]

Jdg 6:34 But the Spirit of the LORD **came upon** Gideon,

Jdg 11:29 Then the Spirit of the LORD **came upon** Jephthah,

Jdg 14:6 And the Spirit of the LORD **came mightily upon** [Samson],

Jdg 14:19 And the Spirit of the LORD **came upon** [Samson],

Jdg 15:1 4... and the Spirit of the LORD **came mightily upon** [Samson],

## **New Covenant**

Ezk 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new **spirit** will I put **within** you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. 27 And **I will put my spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Mat 26:28 For this is my blood of the new testament [covenant], which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

# 4:13 ... he hath given us of his Spirit

## Parsing 4:13

Hereby [by his love  
perfected in us] we know  
...

that he dwells in us and  
we in him

that he has given us of  
his Spirit

1Jn 2:27 ... the **anointing**  
which ye have received of  
him **abideth** in you, ...

1Jn 3:24 And he that  
keepeth his  
commandments **dwelleth**  
in him, and he in him. And  
hereby we know that he  
**abideth** in us, by the Spirit  
which he hath given us.

## Exhortations Concerning the Spirit

Gal. 5:16 This I say then, **Walk in the Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Eph. 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but **be filled with the Spirit**;

Rev. 2:7 He that hath an ear, **let him hear what the Spirit saith** unto the churches; (also 2:11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22)

1Th 5:19 **Quench not the Spirit.** 20 Despise not prophesyings. 21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.

Eph 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And **grieve not the holy Spirit** of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.