

# The Benefits of Mature Love

1<sup>st</sup> John 4:17-21

(series #21)

**Intro:** our natural self-centeredness as a barrier to love

## **I. A Mature Love Gives Confidence v. 17**

A. “Perfected” - “made complete” or “matured”

B. Confidence in judgment

1. We won’t be condemned - John 5:24

2. Confidence before the bema seat

C. “As He is, so are we in this world.”

- John 13:35; John 17:21, 23

## **II. A Mature Love Banishes Fear v. 18**

A. This is verse 17 stated in the negative

B. Obedience is often for our own good

1. John 13:17

2. The Beatitudes

## **III. A Mature Love Mimics God’s Love v. 19**

A. We love Him in response

B. We love others because of God’s love

## **IV. A Mature Love is Not Contradictory v. 20**

## **V. A Mature Love is Obedient v. 21**

**Conclusion:** If you claim to love God, love His people