

First John 4:15-16

- 1) Assertion—4:15 ¹⁵ *The one who acknowledges* [aor. act. subj. ὁμολογέω] *that Jesus is the Son of God,*
 - a) What does it mean to acknowledge? To agree that what is being said is true
 - b) Intimacy with God—*God is residing* [pres. act. ind. μένω] *in him and he* (is residing) *in God.*

- 2) Witness—4:16 ¹⁶ *And we* (emphatic) ...
 - a) Knowledge is inseparable from trust—*know* [pf. act. ind. γινώσκω] *and trust* [pf. act. ind. πιστεύω] *the love* [ἀγάπη] *God has* [pres. act. ind. ἔχω] *in* [ἐν] *us.*
 - i) A figure of speech [hendiadys] combining two elements into one concept
 - a) God's essence—*God is* [pres. act. ind. εἰμί] *love* [ἀγάπη], (cf. 4:8)
 - b) Permanence of their relationship with God—*and the one characterized by residing* [pres. act. ptc. μένω] *in love* [ἀγάπη] ...
 - i) *is residing* [pres. act. ind. μένω] *in God* (who is love), *and God* (who is love) *is residing* [pres. act. ind. μένω] *in him.*
 - (1) A life characterized by Godward, self-sacrificing love is indicative of the genuine believer because it accurately reflects His image.