

# **The Love of God**

**By**

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## **Introduction**

God is Love. Because of this He made us. He did not need to make us because He is complete in himself and does not need us. He made us to be his friend and because of all the good things He could do for us. This is why it is important to know what God's love is

## **Your Concept of God**

### **Jesus asks:**

*What is your concept of God?*

*How do you see your relationship to Me?*

*According to how you see Me will be how you relate to Me*

*Do you see Me as all powerful, all knowing, and everywhere, containing everything, in control of all circumstances, having the greatest love anyone can ever have towards you?*

*And that everything I do shows my perfect Love toward you?*

*Do you believe I am personal and desire to personally relate to you because that will also flavour your relationship with Me and affect the way you approach Me.*

*Do you believe I am a legalist or merciful as this will also affect how you relate to Me.?*

*Examine your perspective of Me, how you see Me because that will affect your relationship with Me and the way you approach Me and serve Me.*

*Remember that salvation is a relationship with The Father and Me guided by the Holy Spirit and how you see this relationship will determine how your relationship with Us will unfold either resulting in salvation or damnation*

*Make certain your concept of God is correct as your eternal life depends on this.*

*Jesus*

## **God made us**

God is Love and when He saw the benefits and joys we would have if we existed the integrity of His Love caused Him to create us and do all He could for our benefit.

So, he created mankind and gave them a perfect environment to live in and when they rebelled, He did all He could to restore this perfect relationship we had with Him.

It is because of God's Love that we were created and are able to be part of His Spiritual family.

## **The integrity of God's love**

*He prepareth a table before me in the presence of my enemies my cup  
runneth over.*

This verse usually is used to show God doing something that brings Him glory. But there are two sides to this verse:

The main reason for this verse is to show God's integrity and the perfect love that results from.

God demands perfection in everything He does and His integrity demands that His love is expressed properly.

So, behind this verse is God's perfect integrity demanding that He exercises his Love perfectly.

In every act of God's love there is His integrity, demanding He carries out his Love perfectly and results in the carrying out of His perfect love for our benefit which is no problem for Him because He loves us so much.

### **God's Love (Author unknown)**

Based on 1 Corinthians 13

Because God loves me, He is slow to lose patience with me.

Because God loves me, He takes the circumstances of my life and uses them in a constructive way for my growth.

Because God loves me, He is for me. He wants to see me mature and develop in His love.

Because God loves me, He does not send down His wrath on every little mistake I make, of which there are many.

Because God loves me, He does not keep score of all my sins and then beat me over the head with them whenever He gets the chance.

Because God loves me, He is deeply grieved when I do not walk in the ways that please Him because He sees this as evidence that I don't trust Him and love Him as I should.

Because God loves me, He keeps on trusting me when at times I don't even trust myself

Because God loves me, He never says there is no hope for me; rather He patiently' works with me, loves me, and disciplines me in such a way that it is hard for me to understand the depth of His concern for me.

Because God loves me, He never forsakes me, even though many of my friends might.

Because God loves me, He stands with me when I have reached the rock bottom of despair, when I see the real me and compare that with His righteousness, holiness, beauty, and love.

### **God, our example of Love**

God is our example in everything that is good and this is especially so in the way The Father, Son and Holy Spirit express Love to each other and to us.

The Father Loves Jesus. So, when Jesus was asked to redeem all mankind, He willingly went out of love for The Father and all mankind. Because of His obedient Love The Father made Jesus Lord of all.

God sustains everything

God created everything

Everything exists inside of God It exists because He maintains it.

This means:

The environment you live in is sustained by Him

Your body, soul and spirit are sustained by Him

All you do is in an environment He sustains for you to do it in.

Your mind is sustained by Him

There is nothing you can do unless He sustains it and allows it.

He gives you free will, His greatest gift, as it allows you to rebel against Him.

This is because He desires your voluntary love and not compelled love like a robot would give.

This is why in everything you should give thanks to The Father.

*1Th 5:18 In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*

## **God's Love**

God expresses His Love it in at least five ways:

He Loves everyone even though He may not love what they do

He sustains everyone in existence - whether or not they worship Him - that is how precious life is to Him

He desires everyone to have a relationship with Him

He does all He can to help people find this relationship with Him

He is merciful and forgiving, not punishing us as we deserve but gives us every opportunity to do what is right and to stay in a correct relationship with Him.

He is our example to follow.

Each of The God head is an example for us showing us how to love (behave) in certain roles.

The Father shows His Love for us

## **The Father**

The Father is our example of what an earthly father should be like, meeting out every need. Even though we do not know we need things He provides them without our asking Him for them. He:

Adopts us as His Child

Desires to have an intimate personal relationship with us

Prepares heaven for us

Provides us with all we need to get to heaven

#### The Love of The Father

He made you and gave you your life. He made you so that He could show His Love to you!

He made you to have an intimate, personal relationship with you and all He has done in The Bible He has done to help you have this relationship with Him.

He has prepared a place for you in heaven so you can be with Him forever!

He does everything He can to help you get there.

He provides every good thing you have which is designed to help you live as He desires you to live and to get to heaven to be with Him for eternity.

He draws you to Jesus and removes you from the kingdom of Satan to The Kingdom of God

He enters in to a relationship with you and He adopts you as His spiritual child so you are part of His Spiritual family and relates to you like a father relates to their child.

He gives your life real meaning and purpose and does all He can to help you fulfill these.

#### **The Lord Jesus:**

The Son is an example of how a son should relate to His parents as well as of how a king should rule. He came to earth to tell us what we needed to do to satisfy God, then died to make it possible and now rules all for the benefit of the children of The Father, even though they may not appreciate it.

Giving up everything He had as God

Coming to earth as a human

Teaching us what God required of us

Demonstrating The Kingdom of God

Then dying to make all He had taught and promised possible.

#### The Lord Jesus

He owned the universe and ruled it but gave it all up to become one of us so that He could teach us how God desired we should live and then died to make it possible for us to go to heaven to be with The Father.

He did not care what would happen to Him because He saw how it would eternally benefit us.

He taught us how The Father desired us to live.

He taught us how to defeat Satan and remove the damage Satan did to people.

Death was punishment for our sin we deserved and Jesus did not sin so should not have died which is why The Father had to raise Jesus from the dead.

He willingly died because He loved us so much

He has given us authority to defeat Satan. (his sinless life meant he defeated everything Satan could do to Him so won all Satan had which included the earth (which He has not returned to claim yet but will do so in the Millennium). Those who rejected what He did still belonged to Satan so would go to hell. But those who accepted what He did would go to heaven to be with Him and The Father.

He heals you of all Satan did you spiritually and at times physically

He now rules all things from heaven and is able to protect His Citizens so that they can resist Satan and get to heaven.

### **The Holy Spirit shows His Love for us**

The Holy Spirit is an example of how a guardian and mentor should behave. He shows His love for you through humbling Himself to have His presence in you and serving you, teaching you all you need to know or do to achieve your potential as a citizen of The Kingdom of God.

The Holy Spirit shows His Love for us by coming to earth to place His presence in us

To mark us as belonging to God

To help us live as we should,

Teaching, guiding and empowering the adopted children of The Father (us) and

Helps them in their role as citizens of The Kingdom of God, ruled by Jesus,

Preparing us to spend eternity with God in heaven.

#### The Holy Spirit

He left heaven to come to earth to place His presence in us in our spirit to mark us as belonging to The Father and prevent demons inhabiting it.

He knows God's plan for your life and does all He can to guide you to fulfill it

When we do not know what to do, He intercedes (tells The Father our need) He and Jesus can then help us in the situation.

Jesus glorifies (promotes) The Father and The Holy Spirit Glorifies Jesus through what He does through us.

He unifies the citizens of The Kingdom of God on earth and guides them in promoting and demonstrating its existence and that Jesus is real,

He never promotes Himself or His Work but is content to work quietly desiring no recognition for what He does. He is our example of a true servant of God expressing God's Love toward us, desiring no recognition or reward for what He does for us.

## **God's Perspective**

God does not have to do anything for us but Loves us so does innumerable things for us that we do not know He does.

God only expects from you that which you can do. Not what others say you should do!

He looks at the attitudes you have as you do things and not at the results.

Who are we that God has done this for us?

That The Father cares so much for us that He wants to adopt us as His children and provides every good thing we need on earth and in heaven. He looks after our every need as His Citizen, even though we do not know we need things at times

That Jesus died so we could be with Him and The father and experience all the delights of heaven and protects all The Father gives us and desires us to do for Him.

That The Holy Spirit desires his presence to be in each of us: guiding, empowering us and teaching us what we need to know as a citizen of The Kingdom of God.?

They individually guides our life so we will be with Him in heaven.

## **God's View**

There are two relationships in salvation (Jn 17:3). One with Jesus as Lord of The Kingdom you are in and one with The Father as your spiritual father by adoption. The adoption by The Father results in Jesus being a step-brother as well as our ruler.

God places the emphasis on our relationship with Him rather as being our ruler and desires us to obey out of love and not fear of punishment..

So, when Jesus looks at the earth, He sees one kingdom being in the people He is ruler of and The Father sees one family made up of all His adopted children who are also citizens of This Kingdom.

However, they also see that these relationships are never usually spoken of in churches and denominations have hidden and even ignored them in places.

So, when Jesus asks His people to unite and do something in a city for Him do they unite? Usually never! They do not even if they even realise they are called to be in unity to reach the city.

When a person in your church needs help do you help them? Unless they are a friend or relative? Usually never. So much for the family of God idea.

When you hear a church nearby needs help (your denomination) do you help them? If it is a different denomination, do you even consider helping them? So much for endeavouring to keep the unity of The Spirit in the bond of peace.

So how do you relate to your fellow citizens or family members whose family you have been adopted into by The Father? Do you show God's quality of love to them?

Your salvation rests on correctly carrying out these relationships.

### **God's Family**

Because of His Love for you He has made you part of His Family and has done all He can to help YOU be with Him in heaven. He has planned Your whole life to help YOU prepare for heaven and to get there.

### **Your relationship to Jesus**

All who believe and obey Jesus as their Lord are able to be part of God's spiritual family

*John 1:12 KJV But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*

Jesus said we are no longer servants but His friends if we do what He commands us! This is because we are in the intimate, love relationship God created for us to be in.

*Joh 15:14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.*

*Joh 15:15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.*

He also said we were His Family

*Luk\_8:21 And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.*

*Rom\_8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

*Gal\_4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father*

Learn to develop the relationship you have with The Father and Jesus guided by The Holy Spirit.

Always have one ear open to them and always remember they are there to talk too and help you.

### **How do you develop the relationship with them?**

The same way you develop an earthly relationship

Remember they Love you deeply and will only ever do what is best for you.

In the Old Testament we have this:

*Micah 6:8 (Brenton) Has it not been told thee, O man, what is good? or what does the Lord require of thee, but to do justice, and love mercy, and be ready to walk with the Lord thy God?*

Note: 'walk with' as if they are a friend and 'not walk' behind which a servant does.

### **The choice is yours**

The choice is yours to accept or reject this relationship and work at maintaining it. You alone will be to blame for where you end up after your death: heaven or hell.

Remember: In everything He does for you is their desire for you to be an intimate friend with them so look for this purpose in all that happens to you.

### **The Family Business**

The Lord Jesus said to Neville:

*"You have been adopted by The Father in heaven.*

*You are part of His family as is every other Christian who has been adopted by The Father.*

*All these Christians, are in a sense, relatives to be treated as such.*

*You also must look after the interests of this family as dictated by The Father of it in heaven.*

*If you love Him as a family member then your purposes will be His purposes and all you do will be an expression of the love relationship you have with Him.*

*This means the Christian life is an expression of this family relationship serving the family and its needs and purposes.*

*The purpose of this family business is the reconciliation of everyone with The Father and Jesus by rescuing them from the enemy and training them how to live as The Father desires His family members to live.*

*As a member of His family these too should be your purposes.*

*So, are they your purposes?*

*Do you live as part of God's family or do you ignore this fact?*

*The true Christian will be doing their part, whatever God has told them it is, for the work of the family head which is The Father, once they realise the relationship, they are in. If they do not do the Will (Work) of The Father, they do not acknowledge Him as head of the family so do not belong to it or His Kingdom.*

*So, are you part of God's family doing the type of family work which God has asked you to do?*

*Not all are called to be evangelists but all are called to demonstrate the Authority of Jesus*



*over Satan and to be able to tell all who desire to know what Jesus and The Father has done for them.*

*The Christian life is the expression of the love relationship you have with other members of this family.”*

*Jesus*

(Neville Salvetti

8 May 2019)

### **God's influence in your life**

By definition God is: All Powerful, All Knowing, Everywhere. Anything existing outside these parameters is a God and by definition there can be only one God.

He is:

All Powerful – Everything is sustained by Him and He can do anything. Whatever occurs He allows or authorises and energises or it would not exist.

All Knowing – He knows everything about everything including everything about your life

Present everywhere – Nothing exists outside of God. Everything exists in God!

So How does this apply to us?

Everything we do is sustained and allowed or promoted by God, who enables us to do it as we are not able to sustain ourselves, or give us the life we need to do it.

God is everywhere so that we are never out of His protection and provision or judgement.

He knows everything we need and provides for what we need when we do not know we need it if we are doing His Will (Matt 6:33 is His promise).

So how should this knowledge affect us?

He gives us life and sustains us to enjoy what He has provided for us

He is always able to protect us and meet our needs

He knows what we need and will do only what is best for us and His Kingdom

What should this knowledge result in us?

Appreciation of His Love for us

Appreciation of all He does for us

Thanksgiving for whatever happens to us.

A desire to do His Will out of love and gratitude to Him for what He has done.

God is a God of Love. If He was not when we did certain things against His Will there would be a flash of lightning, a puff of smoke and a pile of ash where we had stood.

## **God delights in you**

Does it humble you?

That the God of the universe has pleasure in what you do?

*Psa\_37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.*

God has made you what you are because you are a relative spiritually to His Son and also because He has made you what you are.

Also, because He created you to be His child.

What parent does not delight in their children when they do well? So, The Father delights in you when you do well and respond to the training, He has organized for you so you can be with Him in heaven forever.

What parent does not delight in the love they receive from their children?

In heaven all is provided because you are family and you do not ask family members to pay for the love you give them.

So, The Father treats you as His child and provides for your needs so never complain about what you have or go through as The Father is using these circumstances to make you like Him, preparing you to be forever with Him in eternity.

One should never complain about their circumstance as it implies God is not in charge of them.

In all things you should be thankful as they mature you more into the image of Jesus which The Father delights in seeing matured in you. So, He prepares you to be in heaven with Him and Jesus forever.

Each member of the Trinity fully Loves you They can do nothing else but love you with all their perfect love or they would be hypocrites

### **A personal word from Neville**

Lately I have been questioning God's Love as everything I do has either stopped or seems to have been of no use.

So, I came to the conclusion that God is doing things for us as a result of His stewardship of us because He is our Good King and what He does for us is a result of His integrity as a steward and not of out His Love. In otherwords it is a reflection of His role as a king to provide for the needs of His subjects (Matt 67:33)./

God finally showed me how His Nature is expressed to us as Love.

He brought us into existence to be His friend, even though we did not know what existence was, and has done all He can as a good steward to help us obtain and maintain this friendship with Him.

He has done this because of all the joy we would have in our relationship with Him on earth and later in heaven.

Also, the integrity of God requires Him to be a good steward of us to fulfill His desire for us to be in an intimate relationship with Him. This means He does all He needs to for us to enter into the relationship He desires to have with us and to also maintain this relationship.

Behind everything He does for us is this purpose. We may not appreciate what happens at any given time but it is working for our eternal best.

It is required of stewards that they are faithful and He is our example in this.

What should be our response out of gratitude for His faithful maintenance of us as our Good Steward?

*2Jn\_1:6 And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.*

*Joh\_14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.*

We should love Him back which is expressed by obedience and developing the salvation relationship we have with Him.

### **Expressing God's Love**

We can only express God's Love because The Holy Spirit is in us and that is the source of God's Love in us!

The Natural man cannot express God's Love because The Holy Spirit is not in them.

As we do the Will of God, we should naturally express His Quality of Love as that is behind all He does.

This is why we need to be guided by The Holy Spirit in all we do so we can hear what God desires us to do so we can express his Love as we do it.

### **We need to express God's Love**

Only as we express in our life the quality of Love God has for us will we mature as a true citizen of The Kingdom of God and as an adopted son/daughter of the Father and be prepared to have the attitudes we need on heaven.

Remember, Love is an expression of faith and God's faith in us is why He expresses His Love toward us in these ways.

It was the quality of God's Love in them that marked the early Christians from the pagans around them and caused these pagans to comment on the quality of love Christians had. Sadly, this quality of love seems to be missing from most churches today.

### **We must learn to Love as God does**

In a near death experience someone asked Jesus what life was all about. He said it was too learn and to love. To learn about Him, His Kingdom and his creation and to love as He loves. If we do these things wholeheartedly and properly then we will fulfil His requirements of us and it will not matter what we achieve as long as we love as He loves and

we learn what he desires you to learn, Learning and expressing His Quality of Love is one of the two reasons we are on earth so it is really important for us to learn to do this properly.

## **The Plans of God**

When nothing seems to be happening consider the following:

Does a soldier:

Need to know his general's plans each day?

Or why the general has placed him where he is?

Or what the general needs him to know?

Does the soldier need to know each day what the general is planning or doing?

They only need to know each day what they individually have to do and how to do it.

A Christian only needs to know what God desires Him to do that day and nothing else. If they do not know how to do it then they must learn how to do it.

A daily prophetic word may encourage you but it will only give a general indication of what God is doing.

The Holy Spirit is given to each one of us to individually guide us in our daily life and not to rely on a generalised daily prophetic word from others.

This is different to a personal prophecy given to a person as it is specific and not general like daily prophecies are.

One must be careful not to treat daily prophetic words like people treat their star signs each day.

So be encouraged by daily words but make certain you hear the Holy Spirit's guidance in all you do as that daily word may not be applicable to you at that time. He will also show you how God's Love is working in your situation if you ask Him too.

## **Our Role**

### **Do all for the glory of God**

*(KJV) 1Co 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*

The Christian life is really won as we do properly the humdrum everyday things of life as God desires them done and not in the special moments, we have in our faith experience.

God is a God of order and temperance (moderation) and expects us to have these qualities in our life

A mark of demonization is that these things are not in the life of a Christian in a really obvious way. The more disorder, the more demonized a Christian is.

Eating and drinking are just examples of the normal, everyday things we do.

In the days when this was written when excessive eating and drinking were common, a Christian by their temperance and moderation would show they were different because they

were following Jesus. They would also not have been involved in the sexual license that often accompanied these meals.

So, the principle is that if you are truly following Jesus, you will do all things in moderation as well as in an ordered manner following the Example Jesus.

Moderation is relevant. What is moderation to a rich man may be excessive for a poor man so you need to ask Jesus what for you is moderation.

A rich man may have more expensive foods and drinks to continue in the role Jesus has given Him but he needs to ask what moderation for him is and be always needs to do things decently and in order as required by Jesus.

So, look at what you eat and drink, how you vacuum the carpets, wash the dishes, wash and

### **Do all things through Christ**

*(KJV) I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*

*(BBE) I am able to do all things through him who gives me strength.*

*(In modern Bibles the title of Jesus is removed so that anyone can be 'Him').*

Whatever circumstances I am in God will help me overcome them if I desire to providing, they have been organised by Him and not by Satan. Even then He limits the activities of Satan so we can overcome them if we desire.

Most people stop there but we can take it a step further!

Everything I do should be because:

It is His Will

God keeps me alive to do it and controls all things so that I am able to do His Will.

The Father provides what I need to do it

The Holy Spirit guides me to do it as God desires it done

God Strengthens me to do it

When we sin God still keeps us alive in the hope we will repent.

There is not one thing in your life you can do without God keeping you alive and giving you a mind or body that is able to do it, even when it is sin!

Every step we take is because He allows it and enables us to take it

Everything we do He has provided the things we need to do it except we misuse them when we sin.

All the energy in the universe ultimately comes from Him!

All the control in the universe is in Jesus

And He has given us free will which is why we can sin.

He provides free will for us to use for good but we misuse it at times as a bad steward. If He did not keep us alive and control all around us, we could not do good or evil.

So, in reality we can do all the things that God has asked us to do according to His Will if we desire to do it and according to the degree of our desire to do it will be whether or not it is done according to His Will.

A determining factor in this will be how much we love God.

He will always give us whatever we need to do His Will!

So:

Whatever happens that is good give thanks to The Father

If it is bad, then repent if you need to if it is sin

If it temptation or adversity then God has promised a way out 1 Cor 10:13 And will strengthen you to do what is necessary to escape doing the wrong thing.

There may be physical consequences of the action but God will help you cope with them.

In all things we are able to do them because Christ keeps us alive and strengthens us to do them. He prepares us to do them, prepares the things necessary to do them and guides us to do them as He desires them done and strengthens any desires we have to do them so that we can succeed in doing them.

Christ strengthens us to do them but we must be guided by The Holy Spirit to do them as God desires us to do them.

### **In their midst**

God shows His Love for us by joining us whenever we are doing His work.

Matthew 18:20 in various translations:

*(BBE) For where two or three are come together in my name, there am I among them.*

*(CEV) Whenever two or three of you come together in my name, I am there with you.*

*(ISV) because where two or three have come together in my name, I am there among them."*

*(TPT) For wherever two or three come together in honor of my name, I am right there The word 'midst' means a physical presence amongst them with them!"*

So where two or more are gathered together for the purposes of Jesus and His Kingdom He says He is there amongst them.

Is a denominational or other church service done for the purposes of The Kingdom?

Usually not.

So, when do people meet for the purposes of The Kingdom?

When they meet to do the work of The Kingdom or as a body praise, worship or give glory to Jesus

When churches praise, He is in their praises but that does not mean He is physically in their midst as He can be in their praises because He is mentioned as being the object of them.

So, when is Jesus in your midst physically or spiritually.

Ask The Holy Spirit. He will tell you.

### **God made us**

God is Love and when He saw the benefits and joys we would have if we existed the integrity of His Love caused Him to create us and do all He could for our benefit.

So, he created mankind and gave them a perfect environment to live in and when they rebelled, He did all He could to restore this perfect relationship we had with Him.

It is because of God's Love that we were created and are able to be part of His Spiritual family.

**God's Quality of Love has four components. They are:**

Faith in the person that they will love you back with the same love you love them with

Trust in the person that they will cherish your love for them

Respect of each other so that the relationship is not abused

An unselfish reason to love each other, otherwise it is not a true love relationship but one entered into to obtain a direct benefit and not one resulting from the love in the relationship

It must also obey cultural standards so that the love is appropriate to the relationship.

**Why do we love God?**

We love Him because He first loved us with a True Love and not one that would give Him any benefit.

This is why we serve God without expectation of a reward on earth with the assurance that God will reward us after death. But that is not a motivation to love and serve Him.

When you serve God, it should not be for your benefit but for His purpose so that His work is done. As a member of His family, you should love Him as a close relative and not someone who requires you to serve them.

This the example we have from The Father, Jesus and The Holy Spirit who serve us without any expectation of reward because of their pure love for us. And this is how we should serve them who love us so much.

As you serve God examine your motivation for doing so: whether it is out of love, expecting nothing but their benefit, Or for selfish benefit. This will determine your relationship with each member of The Trinity as well as how much you actually love them.