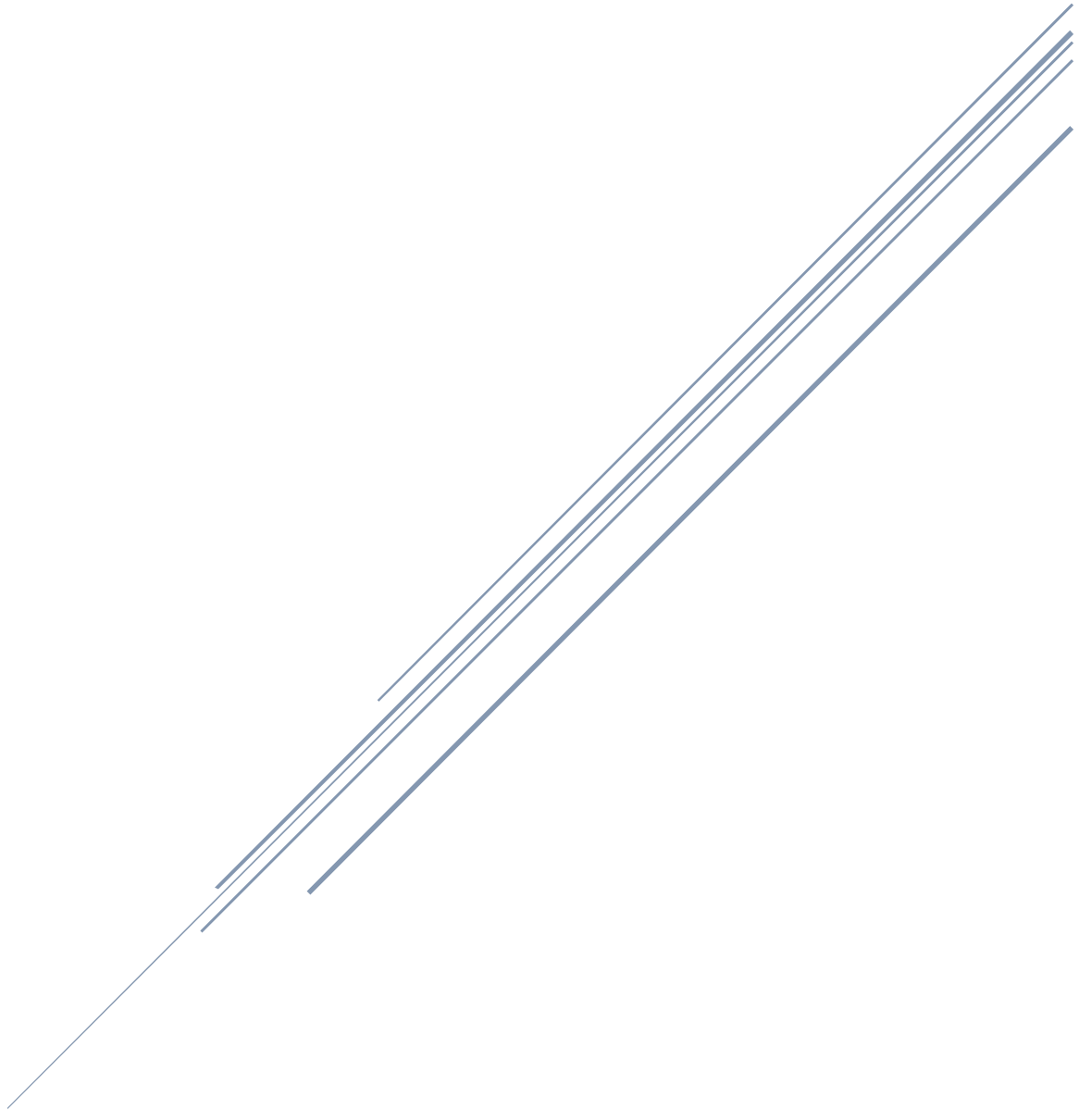


# The Depth of God's Love

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All scripture verses are from the King James Version unless otherwise indicated.

Explanatory insertions with scripture verses are enclosed in brackets [ ].

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## **The Depth of God's Love**

The depth of love, the love that God has for mankind, begins to be found in Genesis 2:7.

### **Genesis 2:7**

<sup>7</sup> And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

The Creator of the heavens and the earth. The one who put the stars, the planets and moons in motion; the one who designed all of creation that our eyes can see.....He formed man out of the dust of the ground and then He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and then man became a living soul.

### **Genesis 1:27-28**

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

<sup>28</sup> And God blessed them...

God's image is eternal life spirit. His image is light and His image is love. God is Spirit. God is Light. God is Love.

The creator took who He is and placed it inside of man which He formed from the dust of the ground.

Why would the creator of the heavens and the earth do that? Because He is love. How deep is that love? The love of God has no end. The love of God has no limit. It is that love of the Creator of the heavens and the earth that resides within God's people.

Mankind didn't evolve from amoebas to fish to monkeys and finally humans! To believe that would require your eyes to be blinded by the evil one. Evolution leads to the end of placing no value on human life. It also results in no purpose for that life. The belief in evolution is a false religion where the intellect of man (an intellect that supposedly came from fish and monkeys) is elevated above the Word of God.

Your life is valuable! Your life has purpose!

After the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden because of their disobedience to God's Word. Mankind required a redeemer that could set back in order what had been lost. What was it that was lost? What was it that died that day in the Garden?

Adam and Eve lost the image of God. They lost spirit. They lost a relationship with the Creator of the heavens and the earth.

Thankfully God had a plan. That plan included sending His son, a perfect man, to purchase back mankind from the evil one. The payment required perfection. All man made religions require the works of an imperfect man to try and gain approval before God with their imperfect works. It's a waste of time. Without God's perfect sacrifice found in Jesus Christ mankind falls woefully short of the perfection required to stand before the presence of a holy and perfect and loving God.

Despite Adam's disobedience God loves.

### **John 3:14-17**

<sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

Before we read further here in John, let's look at the record in Numbers where Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness:

### **Numbers 21:4-9**

<sup>4</sup> And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.

<sup>5</sup> And the people spoke against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loathes this light bread.

<sup>6</sup> And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

It's important to realize here that God didn't send the serpents. It's a figure of speech called an Idiom of Permission. The Israelites by their sin walked out from under the protection of God.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord, and against thee; pray unto the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

<sup>8</sup> And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.

<sup>9</sup> And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

Here in the wilderness if any of the Israelites were bitten by the serpents all they had to do to not die was to look to the serpent of brass that Moses put on a pole so all could see.

<sup>15</sup> That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

When the Israelites were bitten by the serpents in the wilderness they would die if they did not look to the brass serpent on the pole that Moses set up at God's direction.

Today people perish, they die without God and without hope if they fail to believe in God's solution to their separation from God, which is death – the solution, the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

To love is to give. God so loved He gave His son. It didn't cost you or I anything. We didn't give anything to cause God to send His son. God gave because He loves us.

<sup>17</sup> For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Those that don't know God think that he did send His son to condemn the world. He sent His son so that the world could be saved, could have eternal life.

### **Romans 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore being justified [**legally declared righteous in the sight of God**] by faith [**by believing – by believing what? By believing on the Lord Jesus Christ**], we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup> By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand [**today we stand in the grace of God because we have access into God's grace, into His presence, into the promises He has given through Christ**], and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

What is the great HOPE of the glory of God? The return of His son. It could happen at any moment!

<sup>3</sup> And not only so, but we glory in tribulations [**the pressures of this life**] also: [**It's not that we are glorying in the tribulation or pressures in the sense of saying "Lord give me more pressure" .....no we are glorying in the hope of the glory of God in the midst of the pressures of this life!**]

knowing that tribulation works patience;

<sup>4</sup> And patience, experience [**a proving of God's Word. You see the deliverance in the situation as God has promised**]; and experience, hope:

As you see God work it just confirms to you even more that the Word is true, that God loves you, that you will not perish but rather you have eternal life.

<sup>5</sup> And hope makes not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

When you know God loves you. When you know your full redemption at the return of Jesus Christ draws near. When you know your life has value and purpose because of the accomplished work of Jesus Christ in restoring your relationship with the Creator of the heavens and the earth.....then you are not ashamed!

Not only are you not ashamed of who God is and who you are as His child.....you also love with the love of God because that love has been poured out in your heart by the holy spirit which was given to you in the new birth when you believed in your heart that God raised Jesus Christ from the dead and you confessed Jesus as your Lord.

Let's continue....

<sup>6</sup> For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Why were we without strength? Why were we helpless to help ourselves? Why couldn't we pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps, own good works to stand approved before God? It was impossible because our very nature received from Adam separated us from the one true God.

According to God's divinely appointed time Christ died in place of the ungodly.....you and me!

### **That's LOVE!**

<sup>7</sup> For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

Seldom will one die for another. It happens in war. It may happen to a body guard for a dignitary. But those deaths are the deaths of imperfect men for other imperfect men. Those deaths do not result in the giving of eternal life.

<sup>8</sup> But God commended **[gave proof or displayed]** his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

While we were still being disobedient and rejecting the love of the Father, Christ died in place of us.

### **What LOVE!**

<sup>9</sup> Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

We are saved from the future wrath of God as detailed in the book of Revelation. The fulfillment of that wrath culminates in eternal separation from God, resulting in eternal death.

Outside of Jesus Christ that is what awaits those that refuse to accept God's love in the giving of His son.

<sup>10</sup> For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

When we were enemies we were reconciled, brought back into relationship with God....How? by the death of His son. We are saved eternally by his life!

<sup>11</sup> And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

We rejoice in God. We boast in God because we have received holy spirit resulting in sonship and eternal life! What love the Father has displayed toward you and I!

### **2 Corinthians 5:14-15**

<sup>14</sup> For the love of Christ constrains us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:

<sup>15</sup> And that he died for all **[us]**, that they **[you and I]** which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for **[in place of us]** them, and rose again.

Here again is displayed the great love the Father has for each of us. It takes tremendous love to willingly give your life for another. That is what Jesus Christ did. He gave his life for each of us.

We in turn, now in living the love which the Father has shed abroad in our hearts are to no longer live for ourselves. My life is not all about me. Your life is not all about you. We've been given life by way of the eternal life spirit so that we can NOW live for him.

Your life has a purpose that far supersedes the day to day activity of the one that does not know God. Within the day to day activities we are to live for him. We are to live a life of love speaking words that edify and build up. Within each of our spheres of influence we reach others with the love of God by ministering to the need as our Heavenly Father works within us. It's not a haphazard life, it's a life with a purpose.

### **Ephesians 2:4-5**

<sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

<sup>5</sup> Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

God is rich in mercy. He has an abundance of mercy on account of His great love with which He loves us. God loves you!

Even when we were dead in sins, He made us alive in Christ. We have been saved by His grace and love ... not of our own works or intellect.

That is God's love. He has freely given.

### **Ephesians 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship **[masterpiece]**, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained **[prepared]** that we should walk in them.

God has freely given each of us His spirit. We now freely give to a dying world the Words of life and we do the good works our Father has prepared for each of us to perform.

It all started back in the beginning in Genesis, in the Garden with Adam and Eve. The Creator loved and made man. Things got a little messed up when Adam disobeyed God ... But God had a plan...the plan —man's redeemer the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now that he has come and we have believed...it's our turn to love with the love which God has shed abroad in each of our hearts. The love of God casts out all fear. Fearlessly love others. Live your calling in Christ. For those of us that are God's children there really is no other option.

It's a privilege and mighty calling to live your life in light of who God is and what He has made you to be in Christ.

### **1 John 3:1-2**

**3** Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knows us not, because it knew him not.

<sup>2</sup> Beloved, **now** are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

In the fullness of times the splendid glory of God's love will manifest itself with the return of Jesus Christ. He's coming back and when he does we know that we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

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