FAITH THAT WORKS THROUGH LOVE



GALATIANS 5 VERSE 6

6 For [if we are] in Christ Jesus, neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith activated and energized and expressed and working through LOVE.

Understanding HIS Love

Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. [1 John 4: 19]



FAITH WORKS THROUGH LOVE



JOHN 15 VERSE 7

7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

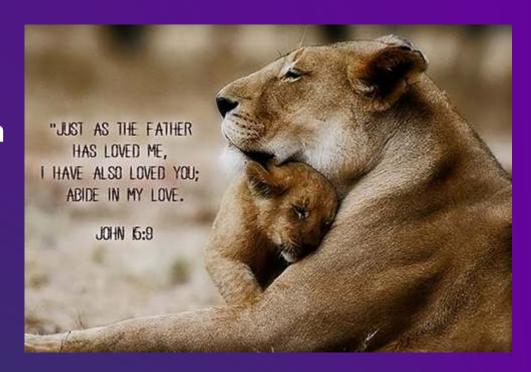
8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.

10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.

11 These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.

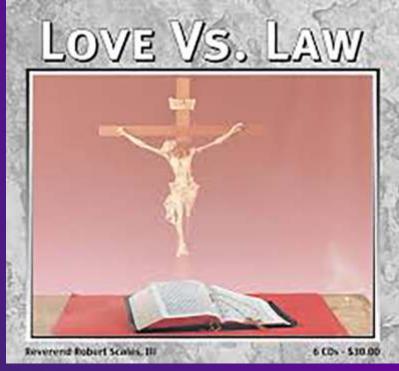
12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.



FOUNDATIONAL FAITH IN HIS LOVE



While comprehension of the extent of God's love is awesome, it is not enough to realize the fullness of God. Comprehension simply opens the door to the deeper revelation of God's love—a love that is not known from mere intellectual knowledge (because it passes knowledge), but through an intimate and experiential knowledge of God that comes only from personal relationship. This intimacy is comparable to the relationship between husband and wife—the joining together of two to become one as it is written in 1 Corinthians 6:17: But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.



This illustrates what I wrote before in that being rooted and grounded in love relates to your comprehension or mere knowledge of God's love; and being filled with all the fullness of God relates to your intimate knowledge of God produced by relationship with Him through the Spirit, AND NOT THROUGH THE LAW.

God is love. 1 John 4: 8

The revelation of God's love is absolutely the most important aspect of your life in Christ. It is the foundation by which all truth stands; and therefore, everything you learn and know about God is measured by it. Consequently, if someone presents information concerning God that violates the principles of God's kind of love, then it is to be discarded as it is written in 2 Corinthians 10: 4-5: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.



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That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith



When you apply this standard to any biblical teaching or preaching, it would be impossible to be deceived. The Bible teaches that your experience of the fullness of what Christ died to give you is directly related to your revelation of God's love. Consequently, if you are not experiencing the totality of all of God's grace and blessing, then you have failed to fully comprehend and know His love as it is written, That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that you might be filled with all the fullness of God. [Ephesians 3: 17-19]



Rooted and Grounded in God's Love

The apostle Paul is teaching several profound truths here, in that while Christ may dwell in your heart by faith, you need to be firmly established (rooted and grounded) in God's love. The word needs to take root in our hearts, Trees that has deep roots will not be easily uprooted!! The same is true with you—if God's love is deeply rooted in your heart, then Satan cannot steal this revelation from you.

After being rooted and grounded in love, you are able to dig deeper in order to comprehend the four dimensions of God's love (width, length, depth, and height).

1 Corinthians 6:17: But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

And Christ is formed in us, which is the work of the Holy Spirit, we are a new creation abiding in... HIS LOVE!!!



Psalm 1:3King James Version (KJV)

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Which Table are we Drinking From?



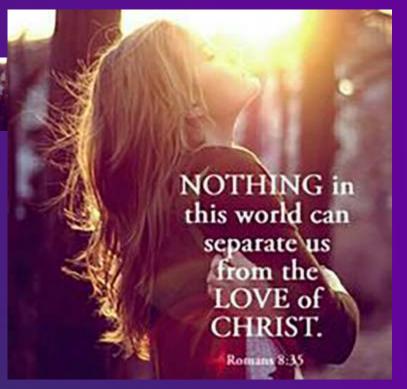
Therefore, according to Scripture, any sin, unbelief, worry, fear, or doubt is a result of your failure to know God's love the way you should. And instead of being offended or condemned by what this teaches, we should rejoice that we finally have the key to greater depths of relationship with the Lord.

Being carnally minded stems from the sin of Independence which we will look at in another teaching.



Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

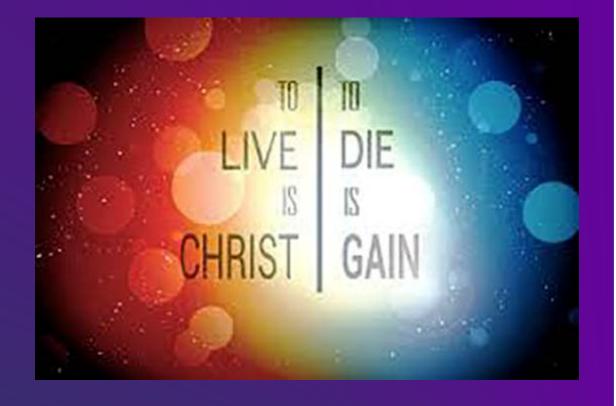
And yet it was Paul who wrote perhaps one of my favorite passages of Scripture concerning the love of God. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For your sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. [Romans 8: 35-39]



Freedom from the Curse & the Sting of Death



It is so very clear through his writings, that Paul had such a revelation of God's love, that he didn't even care whether he lived or died. For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. [Philippians 1:



God's Love is a FREE GIFT.



Most of you understand that grace is unmerited and undeserved favor. Therefore, by definition grace is a by product of love because God's love is unconditional and not dependent upon your performance. God loves you because He is love—not because you are lovable. And because God's love is not based on what you have done or are doing, we must accept it as a free gift in spite of where we are, who we're with, and what we're doing. God's love, as Jesus said, is likened to loving your enemies. Therefore, we can understand the greatness of His love through the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus as it is written, But God commended his love toward us, in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. [Romans 5: 8]



Are we Resting in HIS LOVE?



And this is my point to all those who cling to this false teaching. You can argue doctrine all day and we can play biblical ping-pong with verses of Scripture. But you cannot argue the love of God. For the Christian it should be an indisputable fact.

The apostle Paul, in the face of all the tribulation and adversity confronting him, wrote, For the love of Christ compels us... 2 Corinthians 5: 14. Therefore, when you see yourself falling short of the fullness of what God sent His Son to die to give you, turn to God's love and know that it is the key to ALL FAITH, BLESSING, AND POWER in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Knowledge Puffs Up, But LOVE Edifies.



Everything in the kingdom of God works by faith and as the Scripture says, Faith, which works by love. [Galatians 5:v6] It is the revelation of God's love that supplies the power of faith. Only to the extent of your revelation of God's love will the power and blessings of God be manifest in your life as it is written, Now unto him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according the power that works in us. [Ephesians 3: 20]

