

LOVE

TEXT:

1 John 4:8 & 16:

⁸ He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is Love.

¹⁶ And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is Love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

What does this verse mean? God is Love? We only know love in others by their showing it to us in some kind of manifestation. Love sacrifices personal comforts for the sake of helping another. Love is kind. Love shows mercy. Love is forgiving. Love is considerate of the wishes and feelings of others.
God showed His love to us at Calvary.



Romans 5:8: But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Ephesians 2:4: But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us,

1 John 4:9-10:

⁹ In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His Only Begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

¹⁰ Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

He proved it by giving His Only Begotten Son to be our Saviour. The Cross was no accident or mistake. Jesus is not a martyr. He is the God-sent Redeemer.

God's love is everlasting.

Jeremiah 31:3: The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, “Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee”.

GOD LOVES FREELY

Hosea 14:4: I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for Mine anger is turned away from him.

God wants us to love Him. He shows Mercy to thousands of them that LOVE Him and keep His Commandments.

Exodus 20:6: And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My Commandments.

Daniel 9:4: And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love Him, and to them that keep His Commandments;

We prove our love to Him by doing what He says.
Jesus said:

John 14:15: If ye love Me, keep My Commandments.



God rewards true love not only with mercy, which He shows toward our weakness, faults, failures, mistakes, and sins. Here is how:

Deuteronomy 7:12-13: [speaking to Moses]

¹² Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these Judgments, and keep, and do them, that the Lord thy God shall keep unto thee the Covenant and the mercy which He sware unto thy fathers:

¹³ And He will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: He will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kind, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which He sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

God will pour His love on us in blessings:

1. I will bless thee

2. I will multiply thee.

Deuteronomy 30:16: In that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in His Ways, and to keep His Commandments and His Statutes and His Judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

3. I will bless thy children with health, peace, and prosperity.

4. I will bless thy land giving fruitful seasons.



5. I will bless thy flocks and herds.

6. We will live or remain alive, not have our lifespan shortened.

7. He Promises a good land to those who love Him.

Psalms 69:36: The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and they that love His Name shall dwell therein.

8. God also promises deliverance from sickness, trouble and oppression to those who love Him.

Psalms 91:14: Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known My Name.

9. God will exalt those who love Him. (Psalm 91:14)

10. God will preserve those who love Him.

Psalms 145:20: The Lord preserveth all them that love Him: but all the wicked will He destroy.

11. God will deliver from the Pit of Corruption — death.

Isaiah 38:17: Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but Thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for Thou hast cast all my sins behind Thy back.

12. God will manifest Himself to us.

John 14:21-23:

21 He that hath My Commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him.

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, "Lord, how is it that Thou wilt manifest Thyself unto us, and not unto the world?"

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, "If a man love Me, he will keep My Words: and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode [live] with him."

13. God will make all things work together for our good.

Romans 8:28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

14. God will give unspeakable benefits, treasures in Heaven.

1 Corinthians 2:9: But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.

15. God will give a crown of righteousness to those who love Jesus' Appearing.

2 Timothy 4:8: Henceforth there is laid up for me a Crown of Righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.



16. God will give a Crown of Life.

James 1:12: Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the Crown of Life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him.

17. God will give His Kingdom.

James 2:5: Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the Kingdom which He hath promised to them that love Him?

18. God made us sons of God.

1 John 3:1: Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.

I. God expects us to love Him.

Deuteronomy 10:12-13:

¹² And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all His Ways, and to love Him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul,

¹³ To keep the Commandments of the Lord, and His Statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?

Deuteronomy 30:16: In that I command thee this day to love the Lord thy God, to walk in His Ways, and to keep His Commandments and His Statutes and His Judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

- II. God has to spiritually operate on our hearts to cause us to love Him. We are by nature selfish. We love ourselves more than anything or anybody. This operation is called circumcision of the heart.**



Deuteronomy 30:6: And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

III. God wants us to love Him intimately (cleave).

Deuteronomy 30:20: That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey His Voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto Him: for He is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

God wants us to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

Matthew 22:37: Jesus said unto him, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.”

Luke 10:27: And He answering said, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself”.



God tells His ministers to call saints to love Him.

Psalms 31:23: O love the Lord, all ye His saints: for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

IV. God wants us to lovingly appreciate His Salvation:

Psalms 40:16: Let all those that seek Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee: let such as love Thy salvation say continually, “The Lord be magnified.”

Psalms 70:4: Let all those that seek Thee rejoice and be glad in Thee: and let such as love Thy Salvation say continually, “Let God be magnified”.

V. God wants us to love the Jews and promises prosperity.

Psalms 122:6: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee [Jerusalem].



VI. God wants us to love our enemies and show it.

Matthew 5:44-46:

44 But I say unto you, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in Heaven: for He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?"

VII. God calls, and even commands us to love one another and our neighbors and tells us how much:

Matthew 19:19: Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

John 13:34-35:

34 A new Commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

35 By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.

John 15:12: This is My Commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

John 15:17: These things I command you, that ye love one another.

Romans 13:9: For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other Commandment, it is briefly



comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

2 Corinthians 6:6: By pureness, by knowledge, by long suffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned,

*Galatians 5:14: For all the law is fulfilled in **one word**, even in this; Thou shalt **love** thy neighbour as thyself.*

Ephesians 5:2: And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

*1 Thessalonians 4:9: But as touching **brotherly love** ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.*

1 Peter 1:22: Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

1 John 4:11: Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

VIII. God has a good way to test or check up on our love for one another.

Romans 12:10: Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

Romans 13:10: Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Galatians 5:13: For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.



God's love for Jesus and why:

John 10:17: Therefore doth My Father love Me, because I lay down My Life, that I might take it again.

John 15:9: As the Father hath loved Me, so have I loved you: continue ye in My love.

God commands us to believe and to love Jesus.

1 John 3:23: And this is His Commandment, That we should believe on the Name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as He gave us Commandment.

Revelation 2:4: Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

IX. God has a good way to test or check up on our love to Him.

John 14:15: If ye love Me, keep My Commandments.

John 14:21-23:

21 He that hath My Commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him.

22 Judas saith unto Him, not Iscariot, "Lord, how is it that Thou wilt manifest Thyself unto us, and not unto the world?"

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, "If a man love Me, he will keep My Words: and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode with him."



1 John 3:10-11:

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

1 John 4:20: If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God Whom he hath not seen?

1 John 5:2-3:

² By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His Commandments.

³ For this is the love of God, that we keep His Commandments: and His Commandments are not grievous.

2 John 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.

Those who don't really love the Lord, although saying so with their mouth.

John 14:24: He that loveth Me not keepeth not My sayings: and the Word which ye hear is not Mine, but the Father's Who sent Me.

Those who keep His Commandments stay in His love.

John 15:10: If ye keep My Commandments, ye shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's Commandments, and abide in His love.

Further proof of our love.

John 15:13: Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.



Further test of our love

John 21:15: So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou Me more than these?" He saith unto Him, "Yea, Lord; Thou knowest that I love Thee." He saith unto him, "Feed My Lambs."

X. God's love placed in us by the Spirit

John 17:26: *And I have declared unto them Thy Name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them.*

Romans 5:5: *And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.*

Galatians 5:22: *But the Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance:*

Colossians 1:8: *Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit.*

XI. God's love perfected by the Spirit

1 John 2:5: *But whoso keepeth His Word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him.*

1 John 4:12: *No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His Love is perfected in us.*

1 John 4:16-17:

¹⁶ *And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is Love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.*

¹⁷ *Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the Day of Judgment: because as He is, so are we in this world.*



XII. God tells the things which shouldn't separate us from Him.

Romans 8:35: *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*

XIII. God tells the things which cannot separate us from Him.

Romans 8:39: 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.

XIV. God only looks at our love motive behind all our words and deeds. Nothing else counts.

Galatians 5:6: For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but Faith which worketh by love.

Ephesians 1:4: According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love:

Ephesians 4:15-16:

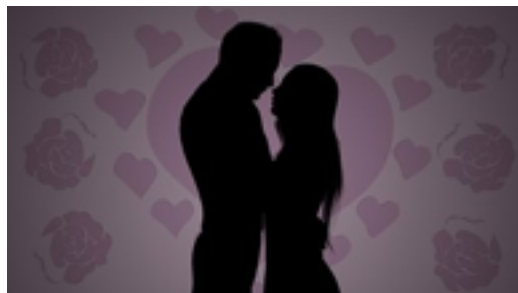
¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ:

¹⁶ From Whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

XV. Christ's love passes knowledge.

Ephesians 3:19: And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

Husbands commanded to love their wives.



Ephesians 5:25: Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it;

Colossians 3:19: Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

God calls saints to love their minister, pastor.

1 Thessalonians 5:13: And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.

XVI. God calls us to feed and stir up each others love.

Hebrews 10:24: And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

XVII. God's love is proved in correction.

Hebrews 12:6: For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth.

Proverbs 3:11-12:

¹¹ My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of His correction:

¹² For whom the Lord loveth He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

Revelation 3:19: As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

Proverbs 3:11: My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of His correction:

Proverbs 3:12: For whom the Lord loveth He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

XVIII. God commands us not to love the world and things.

1 John 2:15: Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

XIX. Those who don't love do not know God.

1 John 4:8: He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is Love.

XX. Those who dwell in LOVE live in God and He in them.

1 John 4:16: And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is Love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

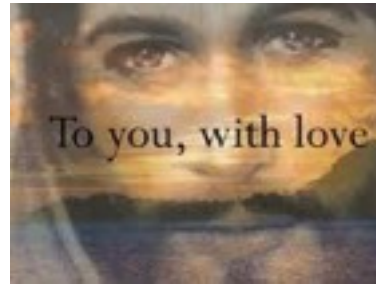
XXI. Why do we love the Lord?

1 John 4:19:

We love Him,

Because

He first loved us.



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