

Welcome to: - Bible House of Grace.



God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Experiencing God's Love.

(2013)

The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

Teach it, don't demand it.

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Experiencing God's Love.

Topics.

- There is no fear in love.
- Love that surpasses knowledge.
- God's love and human love.
- The internet and human love.
- An example of a person being in the heart of another.
- The love of Christ that surpasses knowledge.
- The family spirit is love.

There is No Fear in Love.

1 John 4:18 ----- ¹⁸John says, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love."

God is perfect love this is why those who belong to Christ should never fear that God will not love them. The expression, "Has not been perfected in love" implies that there is, a place in God where a believer can be perfected in God's love. Being perfected in God's love is being without fear of judgment. John is saying that those in Christ should have no fear of judgment, having no fear of judgment is being perfected in God's love.'

Those who belong to Christ should never fear God because God is perfect love. John tells us that perfect love does not fear God, yet Proverbs seems to contradict John's statement because it says, the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, but this applies to the unsaved, Once a person finds Christ they are motivated by love not fear because they understand they have become part of God's family, they are His children and they experience His love in their hearts and minds through faith in Christ.

Ephesians 3:16-19 --- ¹⁶that according to the riches of his (the Fathers) glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit (of love) in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that *surpasses knowledge*, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

These verses of Paul's shine a spotlight on the truth that there one thing in this present age for every brother and sister in Christ that by far surpasses everything that can be attained in this world, even biblical knowledge, it is above everything else that exists. In the Psalms, David constantly thanked God for it and prayed that God would never take it from him. To those who know God it is above money, fame, importance, power, knowledge and even human love. What is this you might ask? Simply this, it is, knowing and experiencing God's steadfast love in the human heart.

Love that Surpasses Knowledge.

Ephesians 3:16 ----- ¹⁶Paul prayed: "That according to the riches of his (the Fathers) glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being."

Paul prays that every Christian would know the Spirit of the Father in their inner being. According to Paul there is something wonderful that everyone who belongs to Christ should be experiencing in their hearts (their inner being).

This something Paul is talking about is the Spirit of the Father it embraces His grace, mercy, forgiveness and ever abounding and unconditional love. Every Christian has the potential to experience this love in their heart and feel it in their emotions.

NOTE: this is not about salvation it is about those who are already saved experiencing God's love within.

Ephesians 3:17-18 --- ¹⁷Paul prayed, "That Christ may dwell in your *hearts through faith* (not works) that you, being rooted and *grounded in love*, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth."

Paul says that God the Fathers Spirit comes to us through Christ and that it is through Christ we experience God's love.

NOTICE: Paul's prayer is that Christ may dwell in your heart, but you might ask, how does Christ dwell in our hearts? The answer to that question is by love it is by love that we dwell in Christ and Christ dwells in us.

God's love and human love: God's love though much greater than our love is nevertheless very similar to human love in the manner in which we experience it. When a person falls in love with another human, the love they have for that other person becomes real in their hearts. They experience in their emotions the love of the other person whether that other person is with them or not. Many wives who have husbands who go to war, experience the presence of their husband because of the love they feel for each other. The husband may be thousands of miles away yet the presence of him is very real in his wives heart.

The internet and human love: certain couples meet on line and communicate with each other over and over a period of time as they get to know each other they experience in their hearts the emotional feelings of love yet they have never physically been with each other. This is because emotional love is spiritual and God has created the human heart in such a manner that it responds to kindness and compassion and to people who show they care.

An example of a person being in the heart of another: the following is a true story. An eight year old disabled girl whose best friend was her mother was doing her first live stage show for her school. The mother loved her daughter, but could not be at the opening show as she was in hospital dying of cancer. A television reporter asked the young girl if she would be sad and miss her mother at the opening of the concert, the small girl with tears in her eyes said, "Yes she will miss her, but she will be in my heart were she belongs". Strong and deep love for a person creates the reality or presence of that person in the human heart.

The Love of Christ that Surpasses Knowledge.

Ephesians 3:19 ----- ¹⁹Paul states: "To know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

Paul prays that Christians would know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, he goes on to say, knowing or experiencing the love of Christ is better than intellectual knowledge. Being filled with the love of Christ is the same as being filled with the fullness of God. The purpose of the Bible is to lead the reader into an eternal loving relationship with God which begins by faith in the human heart through the Lord Jesus Christ and climaxes with God Himself descending to earth to dwell with all who have made His Son the passion of their heart and their Lord and King.

1 Corinthians 13:1-2 --- ¹Paul says: "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not *love*, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not *love*, I am nothing."

Without love a Christian is simply a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal and even more than that Paul goes on to say, without love they are absolutely nothing!

The author of Hebrews says: -

Hebrews 11:6 ----- ⁶without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

The author of Hebrews is teaching a principle, notice he does not say, without works it is impossible to please God, he says without faith it is impossible to please God and then says to please God a person must believe that He rewards those who seek Him. The very essence of love is helping and doing good to others therefore the expression, "Must believe that God rewards those who seek Him" is the same as saying He always does-good. This same principle of believing applies to God's love. To experience God's love those who are seeking Him and who belong to Christ must believe that God loves them.

The beauty and wonder of the Christian faith comes by believing that God is with us every moment, belief is the power of the Christian faith without belief there is no power. It is being mentally conscious and totally convinced that God is with us in the good, the bad and even the ugly moments of life, we cannot escape God because He loves everyone who belongs to Christ and will not let them go even in the ugly moments. The wonder, beauty and splendor of God, is that He will get down in the broken places with us and will not leave us simply because we have got some mud on our linen clothing. The Christian faith without belief in God's grace is like a golden tap without water, dry and useless.

1 John 4:10-13 ----- ¹⁰John says: "This is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. ¹²No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwells in us, and his love is perfected in us. ¹³Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit."

God loved us long before we loved Him, His great and unconditional love is revealed to us in the sacrifice of His only beloved Son. God planned our salvation, long before we gave Him our love. God loved you and me before we even knew Him. Christ was so full of God's love he willingly laid down his life to a brutal, bloody and cruel death so that you and I could know the same love of God Jesus knew in his life.

1 John 4:15-17 ----- ¹⁵John continues to say: "Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he (God) is so also are we in this world."

John says God is love, he does not say one of God's attributes is love he proclaims God is love that is His nature and who He is. It is by His love that He dwells in those who belong to Christ and those who are in Christ are in His love. John then tells his audience that this is how they are to be in the world, walking and behaving in love, meaning treating others with kindness, mercy, grace, compassion and doing good.

The family spirit is love: a natural family is kept together by a spirit of grace, forgiveness and love, most children and teenagers never do everything the parents would wish them to do, yet it does not affect the love of the parents for the child, they are still accepted as part of the family. Yet many Christians who are loved by a far greater love than human love feel rejected by God when they fall short of His standard, but why would God who is love be any different with His children to that of a human parent?

Very few of us manage to live up to our parents hopes, but that does not mean we are rejected, similarly none of us achieve God's will perfectly, we all fail, He understands this that is why Christ died for us, but to experience His love we must believe God love us unconditionally even in the ugly moments of our life. Most Christians have no trouble experiencing God's love when they have been regularly reading their Bible and praying or attending church and going to religious meetings, but when they go through a period of not doing any of those religious things or fall

short of God's standard many feel God has withdrawn His love, but God's love does not turn on and off according to our human efforts, God's love is consistent it is unconditional and ever abounding that is why David repeatedly called it God's love steadfast love.

NOTE: David feared losing God's love, but that was because of his enormous sin (most likely when Nathan confronted him about his affair with Bathsheba), he believed he had sinned so bad God would withdraw His love, but just because David felt that God would withdraw His love does not mean God actually would. David most likely felt so grossly bad that he was not worthy of the love and that God would be fully justified in withdrawing his love, certainly God dealt with David accordingly, but He never stopped loving David.

The only thing that will block God's love is unbelief. Belief is the bridge that God's love comes to us on it is like a sun beam that brings a warm ray of light to a flowering plant. Belief is the link between God's love and us we can only experience God's love by believing that He loves us. To experience God's love we must believe that He love us this is not always easy as sometimes life can take us on a difficult path, emotionally, financially, physically or even spiritually.

On other occasions the difficulty arises from those negative voices that chatter in our heads constantly telling us we just don't match up to God's call, but when depression and despair manage to grab control of our minds through the chatter of noise in our heads, God has not left us without hope, in His great wisdom He has given us David, Paul, Peter and many others as examples of those who failed to attain to God's Holy Standard.

Ponder the following questions: -

- Have you ever committed adultery and then plotted to have the woman's husband killed so it wouldn't be found out? David did and God said he was a man after His own heart, why? Because David was deeply and honestly hurt and broken before God over what he had done, repentance keeps us connected to the ever flowing river of God's love with its gentle currents of grace, mercy and forgiveness forever ready to flow through the spiritual veins and thoughts of our minds through faith.
- Have you broken up Christian families and put them in prison, or agreed with the authorities to have those who believe in Jesus killed? Paul did and yet God used him to write the majority of the New Testament, why? Because Paul had a zeal for God and believed he was protecting the Old Testament Law of Moses and God's Covenant, he did what he did in ignorance, but immediately changed his way when God's light came to him.
- Have you denied Jesus? Peter did and Jesus invites him to a meal at the seaside, why? Because Jesus knew Peter's heart, he knew Peter loved him and understood his fear of the Roman guards.

Just as God understood the heart of David, Paul, Peter and many others he understands your heart, in those moments of weakness or ugliness, God will not forsake or give up on you.

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