

LOVE (I John 4:7-21)

Those who abide in love, abide in God and God in him. Love is the expression of the unseen God, the rays of His brilliance, the warmth of His presence; Love is the light that brightens, changes, and transforms the world and unveils the eyes to see the unseen, to see and feel the pain of others.

Dwelling continuously in love, is to dwell in God. The greater expression that has ever been seen of love has been shown by Love Himself, when He sent His only Son to die for sinners, and haters of Him. When He prayed for those while crucifying Him, He stooped down low to lift those sinners and valued them to the position of children of God. And in this relationship love is seen, love is felt. Love takes us to His shelter and hides us from the storm for love is the rock that is strong and secure and no one, nothing can snatch us from His hand.

When we are rooted in His love, we then become secure and confident in the perfection and assurance of this love and the enemy will not be able to touch, to torment and to destroy us with fear, for love will expel fear out with its terror of punishment. **Why are we so fearful sometimes? Simply because we have not yet grown in His perfect Love.**

Faith is the link that unites to love for action. They walk hand in hand, showing the world that Love is God, the true God. Love is the fruit of the seed of faith planted in the heart of the one who believes. Jesus commands us to bear fruit for eternity; fruit that glorifies the Father. This fruit is the love that He has given us and he has taught us. My commandment is this: that you love one another, Jesus told the disciples. **Obedience is the continuous act of abiding in His love; it is the continuous extent of love we have for Him.**

When we can smile at the one who hates us, then we can say that love has been made complete in us; when we can extend a hand to the one that brought us grief, we can say that love has been made perfect in us. And if at one's stoning, we can say, forgive him Father, for he knows not what he is doing, then heaven will be opened to us and His voice will sound with a celebration of welcome home, faithful servant! Yes, faith is the root of love and like a tree planted by the

water whose roots are fed and nourished, so is the believer whose roots of faith are continuously in Him, the source of life, the source of love, the source of faith. To be rooted in love is to be secure, it is to be firm and not afraid; it is to be dwelling in the secret place of the Most High and it is to remain stable under His shadow (Psalm 91:1) no matter how hard the challenges we face day by day.

Love is God, and he who dwells and continues in love, dwells and continues in God, and God dwells and continues in him (I John 4:16 b).

May He find us dwelling in His love at His coming!

THINK ABOUT IT!

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