

The Love of God 3 – 08/17/11

PSALM 8:4-6 –

4 **What is man that you are mindful of him? And the son of man that you should care for him and visit him?**

5 For you have made him a little lower than **"the angels" or ELOHIYM"- THE SUPREME GOD** and have ***crowned him with glory and honor or DIGNITY AND WORTH!***

6 **You** made him to ***have dominion*** over the works of your hands; **you** have put all things under his feet.

ADAM LOST THE GLORY:

GEN 3:6-10- Sinned, hid, covered self

JESUS RESTORED THE GLORY:

Jesus reveals the Father's Love

John 17:19-24 –

19 And I [Jesus] give myself entirely to you [Father] so they also might be entirely yours.

20 "I am praying not only for these disciples but also ***for all who will ever believe in me because of their testimony.***

21 My prayer for all of them is that they will be one, just as you and I are one, Father — that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us, and the world will believe you sent me.

22 ***"I have given them the glory (magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity and worth) you gave me,*** so that they may be one, as we are —

23 I in them and you in me, all being perfected into one. Then the world will know that you sent me and will understand that ***you love them as much as you love me.***

Our Value and Worth is based upon the fact that God loves us!

On what basis do you conclude that God loves you? Performance vs. Nature

Do you really believe and have you had your heart truly persuaded that God loves you as much as He loves Jesus?

- Our entire lives are governed by what we "believe," not what we desire.

I JOHN 4:16-19 –

16 And we have ***KNOWN, BELIEVED and come to TRUST THE LOVE that God has toward us.*** GOD IS LOVE and he that dwells in love, dwells in God and God in him.

17 It is ***through this understanding*** that love has attained its perfection in us, enabling us to be bold, have perfect or absolute confidence and fearlessness on the day of judgment, for we realize that our life in this world is actually his life lived in and through us!

18 There is absolutely no fear in love! Perfect love casts out fear. If a man fears, there is something imperfect in his understanding of love. ***There is no fear in love (dread does not exist), but full grown, complete and perfect love turns fear out of the doors and expels every trace of terror! For fear brings with it the thought of punishment and is tormenting and so he who is afraid (of punishment) has not reached the full maturity of love and has not yet grown into love's complete perfection.***

19 WE LOVE HIM, BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED US!

Most of us “believe” that God loves us and desires to help and bless us based upon our performance and how we feel about ourselves, not on God’s unearned love!

If you are afraid of God or expect punishment from Him, you don’t yet understand “Who He is” and “How much He loves you.”

Understanding “His Love” is the foundation that you base every decision you make upon.

If “God’s Love” isn’t governing your life, then fear is!

Any decision made out of fear will produce more fear, torment, sorrow and pain; only by “Believing God’s Love” will peace come.

When we constantly expect to experience a good outcome, while our belief system is setting us up for a bad outcome the resulting disappointment will create a devastating emotional condition.

I JOHN 3:16 - We have come to know *how much God loves us from this, because Jesus laid down his life for us!*

You can be a “Christian” or “Born of God” and still not “Know God” or have experienced intimacy with Him.”

I John 4:7-10 –

7 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is ***born of God*** and ***knows God***.

8 But anyone who does not love ***does not know God*** — for ***God is love***.

9 God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him.

10 ***This is real love. It is not that we loved God, but that he loved us*** and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.

Only by “Believing His Love” will we enter into a belief system that will produce life and peace!