

True Love

(By Rev. Luís Moreno, 14 February 2021)

Many times we celebrate February 14th. It makes us remember the Day of Love, in which send chocolates, flowers, hearts, cards of love, poems, etc. to the people we love, and it is good that we do so. Love should be expressed every day of our lives to everyone.

Today we can deepen our understanding of where true love is born. The Word of God teaches us the importance and the emphasis we should place on love.

1. 1 John 4:7-12

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Seeing God Through Love

¹² No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

2. John 3:16-17

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

3. Philippians 2:1-8

Therefore if *there is* any ^[a]consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, ² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. ³ *Let* nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

The Humbled and Exalted Christ

⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it ^[b]robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but ^[c]made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

We clearly see where that love comes from. That love has been delivered to us. Thus, God has told us in His Word to love Him and then love others.

4. Matthew 22:36-40

³⁶ “Teacher, which *is* the great commandment in the law?”

³⁷ Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is *the* first and great commandment. ³⁹ And *the* second *is* like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

5. 1 John 4:16-21

¹⁶ And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

The Consummation of Love

¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. ¹⁹ We love ^[a]Him because He first loved us.

Obedience by Faith

²⁰ If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, ^[b]how can he love God whom he has not seen? ²¹ And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also.

In the book of 1 Corinthians, the Apostle Paul gives us a great teaching with respect to how we act in our daily lives. Love should be important to the daily lives of each person who has believed in God. We should always be imitators of Christ when we have come to know Him. However, before this verse, the apostle emphasizes the gifts of the church of Christ.

6.1 Corinthians 12:28-31

²⁸ And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. ²⁹ *Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles?* ³⁰ *Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?* ³¹ But earnestly desire the ^[a]best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

Now we are going to see why the Apostle Paul show us a more excellent way upon reading Chapter 13 of 1 Corinthians, which has the title of the pre-eminence or excellence of love.

“Let yourself be guided by love.”

According to the versión of the Word of God for Everyone, this translation says the following in 1 Corinthians 13:

VERSE 1 =If I can speak several human languages and even angelic languages, but I don't have love, I am like resounding metal or a ringing bell.

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VERSE 2=I can have the gift of prophecy and know all the secrets of God. I can also have all knowledge and have a faith that moves mountains. But if I don't have love, I am nothing.

VERSE 3=I can give everything I have to help others. I can even offer my body to be burned. But if I don't have love, that is not worth anything.

What is true love like?

VERSE 4=Love is patient and kind.

Love is not envious. It is not presumptuous nor proud.

VERSE 5=Love is not rude nor selfish. It does not get angry easily.

Love does not maintain an account of offenses.

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VERSE 6=It does rejoice at unrighteousness. It rejoices about the truth.

VERSE 7=Love accepts everything with patience. It always trust. It never loses hope. It bears all things.

VERSE 8=Love has no end. One day the gift of prophecy will end. The gift of tongues will end. The gift of knowledge will end.

VERSE 9=Now we only know and prophesy in part.

VERSE 10=But when what is perfect comes, everything that is partial will end.

VERSE 11=¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became an adult, I stopped behaving like a child.

VERSE 12=The same thing happens with us. Now we see everything

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like the reflection of a dark mirror, but when what is perfect comes, we will see God face to face. Now my knowledge is partial , but then my knowledge will be complete. I will know God like He knows me.

VERSE 13=And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love....

Colossians 3:23-24(Everything is done for the Lord.)

²³ And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for^[a] you serve the Lord Christ.

I want to tell you all a Little bit about our marriage. When I met my wife we were two adolescents. She was 11, and I was 14. We never thought that we could love each other so much., but when the love of God came to our lives, our love blossomed a lot more, since God is love. Thus, we have made the decision to love each other until the end. God has always been taking care of our love.

We have been happily married for 30 years. This love only comes from God.

Romans 5:5

⁵ Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

In conclusion, love can be defined as me renouncing my desires so that she can be happy...Happy Love Day