

GOD
LOVES
ME

KEITH MOORE

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BY KEITH MOORE

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations in this book are from the King James Version of the Bible.

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Galatians 5:6 says, “For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.” It’s not the outward things—outward observances or works—that have value. It’s faith that has value. The verse says, “Faith which worketh by love,” or as the Amplified Bible says, “Faith activated...through love.” Another translation says, “Faith which operates through love.” Faith works by love. It operates and is activated through and by love. Is there a connection between faith and love? If the love is not operating, will that affect the faith? Yes, it will. So we need to think about love when we think about faith, because faith works by love.

If the love is not there like it should be, then the faith is not going to work like it’s supposed to work.

First John 4 is a tremendous passage on love. Verses 7-9 say, “Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love. 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.” There was—and is—a manifestation of the love of God. Verse 10 continues, “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.”

First John 4:17 says, “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.” Is there a connection between love and boldness? Are confidence and boldness associated with faith? Yes, and they’re all connected with love. He explains it further in verse 18. “There is no fear in love...” No fear. If you had absolutely no fear but just confidence and boldness, would you be in faith? Yes, and that is the result of love. He goes on to say, “Perfect,” or complete, “love casteth out fear.” That word *cast* is a strong word. It means “to throw without caring where it lands,” and that’s what love does to fear. Love throws fear out of here. I like that. “Perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment.” Fear is tormenting. When you’re afraid your bills are not going to get paid, fear gnaws at the back of your mind while you’re trying to work, or when you’re trying to do things around the house. And fear affects your relationships.

So many people are under duress and stress because of financial pressure, and it’s just a fear that they’re not going to make it. It’s a fear that the money is not going to be there on time, or that they’re not going to have enough. Or they might be in fear about their body—that it’s not going to improve or that it’s going to get worse. It’s a fear that they’re going to die in mid-life, or that they’re going to die prematurely.

If you yield to it, that fear is with you all of your waking hours. It will wake you up in the middle of the night. It is tormenting, and it is not from God. God didn’t give us the spirit of fear.

What will get rid of the fear? Complete love. Full love will throw it out. It will cast it out and push it out so that you just have boldness. I like the sound of that, don’t you? The love of God and the faith of God are inseparable. They are inseparable in operation.

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Paul said in 2 Timothy 1:12, "...for I know Whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day." I know in Whom I have believed. Faith is not just mental adherence to principles or a legalistic ritual or routine. Faith is in knowing the One Who said the words. I know Him. I don't know all there is to know about Him, but I know Him, and He knows me. I know enough about Him to know that if He said it, we can count on it, and we can build the building on it. We can count on it. To know Him is to know love, because God is Love.

Many times when people hear the phrase "perfect love casts out fear" or "faith works by love," they think it is referring to walking in love—that if they will walk in love, their faith will work. That certainly is a truth, and that is a part of it, but He didn't *just* say that, and He didn't *limit* it to that. He said that faith works by love—the whole thing. So don't limit these verses to just walking in love with others and how that affects your faith. It certainly does, but first and foremost, you need to understand how much God loves you.

God's love for you, your love for God, your love for yourself, and your love for your fellow man all work together in the operation of faith. The thing that continues to quicken my faith is the greater revelation about how much He loves me. When I begin to see how much He really does care about me, my faith just comes up, and I know I'm going to make it—not because I'm extraordinary, but because He loves me. I have Someone big on my side.

Years ago, I had a Doberman, a big, fine specimen of a Doberman. I think he was about 110 pounds. He's the one you don't want to meet at night. He was a big, intimidating dog, and he was *my* dog, so I was okay. But strangers were not okay. This dog was with me all of the time. He rode in the back of my truck, he caught my Frisbee[®], and he protected my stuff. But if any strangers came around, I had to watch him, or he would get them—and he wouldn't warn them, either. He would just come up behind them, and the next thing you know, he's got them.

One day some salesmen came by. I didn't know it, but they had pulled up in a car. My dog went around the back of the car and snuck up behind them. They had the windows open, and he stuck his head in, looked at them, and growled. I thought they were going to make a sunroof in that car! They left and didn't come back.

Another time, a friend came by and brought his little boy. I guess the boy was about two or three years old. They got out of the car, and there went my dog. Well, this little kid was scared. No wonder! The dog looked very intimidating—and he *was*. But his daddy was a big guy, and the little boy ran around behind his daddy and kind of peeked around behind one leg.

I spoke to the dog, then I told them they would be okay. My friend reached around and got his little boy and said, "Don't worry about that, son. I won't let him bother you. He's fine. Come on out." So the little boy just stepped out right in front of him. Now, he stayed close enough where he could touch his daddy, but all at once, he found some boldness. I watched his fear fade, and he walked over, reached up, and touched that dog on the nose—but he kept one hand back where he could touch daddy. Why did his fear fade away? Because his great big daddy had spoken to him and said, "It's all right, son."

Now this is what I want you to understand: His father did not tell him, “Now son, I give you my word: I will not let this big, bad dog bother you.” He didn’t say any of that. He just said, “Come on out,” and this little boy knew that his daddy loved him, so he didn’t have to say any of that. He knew that he was going to look out for him, protect him, and take care of him because he knew that he loved him.

When you *know* that God loves you, it’s going to take away a lot of your questions. It’s going to take away your frustrations and your wavering. When people ask, “Will God heal me?” they don’t know how much He loves them, or they wouldn’t have asked the question. “Will God help me pay my bills? Will God help me get caught up? I’m behind. Will God help me get out of debt? I don’t know—do you think it’s His will?” To ask that means you don’t really know Him. I didn’t say you weren’t saved, but you don’t really know Him, because if you knew how much He loved you, you wouldn’t even ask that.

It’s not enough to just have faith in His ability. Do you remember the leper in Mark 1:40? He said to the Lord, “If You will, I know You can make me clean.” He was convinced the Lord *could* do it, but he didn’t know if He *would*. That’s what many Christians believe. They believe God has the power to heal, or the ability to meet their needs, but they’re not convinced that He will do it for them. It doesn’t make any difference how much ability or how many resources a person has; if you’re not convinced they will use them for you, you can’t have faith to receive.

But when you know how much God loves you, you know why He uses His ability and why He created us. “He delights in showing mercy,” Micah 7:18 says. He wants to do it. He enjoys doing it. This is His *thing*. You might ask, “What do you mean by that?” Well, what does God like to do? You have some things that you like to do, but what does God like to do? He delights in showing mercy—that’s what He enjoys. It makes God say, *Oh, yeah! I’m enjoying this!* when someone believes Him, or when someone opens the door and lets Him do for them what He can do. His eyes are looking throughout the whole earth to and fro—and God has a good scanner. He’s scanning the earth, looking for someone who is wholehearted toward Him. He’s looking for someone who believes, so He can show Himself strong on their behalf and do some things for them—some “God-sized” things. (2 Chronicles 16:9) When He can do that, He says, “Oh, yeah! I like it.” He delights in it.

The devil has lied to the Church and to the world about God. Much of the Church has painted the picture that God is not really that involved with humanity. He created it and gave it a fling, and He’s off somewhere just kind of watching it, knowing we’re going to mess up, and just waiting until we do for judgment to fall. Many in the world have this impression of God because of what the Church has said.

But God loves us. He really, really loves us. He cares about us. He keeps up with things like the number of hairs on our head. (Matthew 10:30) I don’t keep up with the number of hairs on my head, do you? I don’t keep up with the number of hairs on the heads of my loved ones, either, do you? But He does.

Some people are foggy in their thinking and say, “I wonder if God cares about this.” Even people who have some grounding in faith question Him. When things go on and don’t change or happen

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as quickly as they want or think they need to, the enemy will sit on their shoulder and say, “God doesn’t really care. If He really cared, He’d be doing something about this. If He really cared, this would not be going on this long. It wouldn’t be like this.” Never, ever entertain such ideas! They’re lies!

God cares about you, and if you saw the whole picture, you would see that He has been more merciful to you than you would have asked Him to be. So many times you just don’t see the whole picture. He has heard your prayer. He is honoring your faith. He is doing things for you. He has done things for you. He has a good plan for you. And if you will just stay with Him, you’re going to wind up in a good place.

But the devil knows that, so he wants to disrupt and hinder your fellowship. Even if you don’t question things out loud, he wants these questions to be nagging you in the back of your mind: “Why has God done that? Why did He allow this? Why did He let this happen? Why hasn’t He done this already? I just don’t understand.” It’s okay to have questions, but it’s *not* okay to question His love. And it’s *not* okay to question His faithfulness.

Recall when the disciples were in the boat, and Jesus was asleep in the back on a pillow. The storm arose. It raged. Finally the disciples went to Jesus, shook Him, and said, “Jesus! Jesus, get up! Don’t You care that we are dying? Don’t You care that we are perishing out here?” He got up and took care of the situation, but He looked at them and said, “Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?” (Mark 4:37-40) Can you answer the question? Why was it that they were so full of fear? Why was it that they weren’t in faith? They were questioning His love. They were not made perfect in love, and they were questioning, “God, don’t You care? Jesus! You’re going to lie there and sleep while we all drown? Don’t You care?” That is an insult to God.

Always stay on God’s side. When you don’t know things, and when you don’t understand why or why not, even through your tears and questions, look up to God and say, “Lord, I don’t understand it, but I know this: You are faithful to me. You *have* loved me, and You *will* love me, and You will *never* let me down. My eyes are on You. I’m trusting in You. I’m relying on You.” He loves you.

I’m telling you, the more you get hold of this, the more your faith will just begin to come up. The next thing you know, that thing you ran away from will be the thing you just walk right up to, in front of your Father, and touch its nose. You’ll look it in the eye. You’ll deal with it. You’ll overcome it. But always keep one hand there on the Father. You know He is right there. You know He is backing you. God loves you.

It’s not enough to know that He *can* do something. You have to be persuaded that He *will* use His ability and resources for you. You don’t have to get into a regiment of legalistic confession, going through every motion and being afraid if you don’t do it several times a day, you’re going to fall through a legal crack somewhere, and it’s not going to work. No! What if you don’t dot every “i” and cross every “t”? He still loves you. He knows your heart. If you’re walking in the light you have and doing the best you know how to do, even if you don’t know enough, He’ll show you some more. If you make a mistake, He’ll correct you.

I'm convinced that Keith Moore is going to make it, and you need to be convinced that *you* are going to make it! I am convinced that I'm going to run my whole race. I'm going to finish my whole course with joy. I'm going to cross the line and hit the ribbon. Do you know why? Because God loves me.

That was the apostle John's claim to fame. Do you remember when God used him to pen the Gospel of John? Instead of referring to himself as "John" or "John, the apostle," he referred to himself as "the disciple whom the Lord loved." Who are we talking about? John. Who was the disciple who laid his head on Jesus' breast? He was the disciple whom the Lord loved. Instead of saying "John," he changed his name.

What is your name? You too can say, "I'm the disciple the Lord loves."

It will do you a world of good to grab it right now. Who are you? I'm the one He loves. We're not saying He doesn't love anyone else. I can't be the one to believe He loves you *for* you. *You* have to believe that for yourself. Say, "**He loves me.**" Just go around and say that. "He loves me. God really likes me. He likes me. He's thinking about me this morning. He's working things out for me this morning. He has a plan for me."

The reason I'm so convinced I am going to make it is because He loves me. If I need something, He'll tell me. If I don't get it, He'll tell me again. If I don't get it for three months, He'll tell me for the ninety-third time. If He needs to, He will crank up the volume. If He needs to, He'll send four people by me and say, *Keith... Let me draw you a picture here...* I believe He'll do that for me. I'm not talking about not trying; I'm just talking about if I need it. If I stub my toe and I fall, I believe He'll pick me up. If I take a wrong turn, He'll get ahold of me and say, *Keith, not that way; this way.* He will help me. He'll teach me. He'll correct me. He'll guide me. He'll do it because He loves me.

If you really believe this, how can you say, "I don't think He will heal me"? That doesn't agree. "Oh, He loves me, but I don't think He'll help me pay my bills." That cannot work, can it? If He loves me, He's going to help me—and He already has helped me.

God loves us. I want to give you some reasons why we know that God loves us—and there is no particular significance to this order.

Reason number 1: We know God loves us because the Bible tells us so.

Let me go over that really slowly: Jesus loves me, this I *think*? No! This I *know*. Why? For the Bible—we're not talking about some other book—the *Bible* tells me so.

Jeremiah 31:3 says, "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." You ask, "Lord, You love us?" He says, "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love. That's why I have drawn you, with loving-kindness."

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Some years ago, I was on the floor praying and thinking, and the Lord brought some things to my remembrance. He showed me what He had done for me. You understand, in John 15:16, He said, “Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in My name, He may give it you.” He said these things so our joy would be full (verse 11). He said, “I chose you.” And so I was thinking, “*I did answer the altar call.*” He said, “Keith, I dealt with you for years to get you to the place where you could hear and respond.” Well, He did.

I said, “We went to RHEMA Bible Training Center,” and the Lord said, “Keith, I was working on you for years to get your faith to the place where you could believe that I could provide for you.” And He added the grace, and added the strength, and nursed us, and carried us on eagles’ wings.

How many times have we thought we were “doing good in our faith,” and we were doing the best we knew how, but if we had seen the whole picture, we would have seen that He was carrying us? He said, “Yes, I have loved you.”

There is so much in the Gospel of John about this, as well as in First John. Jesus spoke in John 16:27, and we know what He said is right and true. He said, “For the Father Himself loveth you, because ye have loved Me, and have believed that I came out from God.”

In John 17, Jesus is praying. Do you believe He gets His prayers answered? In John 17:23, Jesus said, “I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me.” Do you see that? Jesus said, “...that the world may know that You have sent Me, and that the world may know that You have loved them as You have loved Me.” Do you believe the Father loved—and loves—Jesus? I mean, it’s not every day that you hear the voice of God out of the sky saying, “This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17) But here He tells us that now, being in Him, He loves us just as He loves Him. Don’t try to figure it out—just believe it by faith.

Say this out loud: **“He loves me even as He loves Jesus.”**

He wants the world to know this. He wants the world to know that He loves you and He loves me just like He loves Jesus.

First John 3:1 says, “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God...” Now that’s love. I’m a son of God. You’re a son of God. Male and female, we’re all sons of God.

He said in Revelation 3:9, “Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.” Yes, we may take some flack now, and we may be ridiculed, persecuted, and called “feeble.” We may be called “weak,” and we may be called “ignorant,” but before this thing is over, our enemies are going to be brought to our feet, and He is going to make everyone see that He loves us. He chose us.

That's going to be our claim to fame. "Who are you?" I'm the one He loves. Concerning the people who were so high and lofty, so arrogant and stiff-necked, who rebelled and spoke so blasphemously concerning His Church, He's going to bring them and put their nose right down toward your shoe and say, "Now you see here: I love them." Then we're going to say, "Yes, He loves me. I told you!"

We don't have to defend ourselves or justify ourselves. We don't have to convince other people that He loves us. He's going to demonstrate it Himself. He does it right here and now by His protection, by His love, and by His blessing. The closer you walk with God, the more He's able to manifest His love in your life, until it becomes more and more obvious to people who see you that God loves you. He wants to show He loves them, too, if they'll just let Him. He delights in blessing us. How do we know God loves us? He told us He does.

Reason number 2: God's love for us is evident from the creation of the world.

He made us in His own likeness and image. The Bible tells us, "For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made." (Romans 1:20) In Genesis 1:31, it says, "God saw every thing that He had made, and, behold, it was very good." And it *is* very good!

There are some confused and blind scientists, researchers, and philosophers who are trying with all their might to convince our youth, children, and young adults that we are really quite insignificant—that Earth is not that big of a deal in the universe. They say that we human beings are just highly-evolved animals, not much more special than an ape, and that Earth is not more special than any other planet. There are all of those galaxies out there, and we're really not very important.

Everything is geared toward causing us to feel that we are insignificant. Where do you think that came from? That's the devil. I'm telling you, the devil envies us. He was in the presence of God. He knows what it's like to be in that love and in that presence, but he has lost it because of his arrogance and rebellion—and he can't have it back. Now you and I are the apple of His eye, destined to be in His love for eternity, and the devil can't stand it.

People laugh at us about this, but let me tell you, and I say it without apology—we *are* the apple of His eye. The reason all of those planets exist is so Earth could exist. The reason Earth is here is so we can be here. He made it for us. That's why there is a sun. That's why there is a moon. That's why there are the other planets. They're for us.

Scientists will say, "What arrogance. What ignorance." No, *they* are ignorant. The reason the sun is shining this morning is for you! The reason the world is turning is for you! The reason that the ocean is coming up against the sand is for you! Earth as it is now is not like it was when it was originally created. It's fallen. It has been messed up terribly. But even in its fallen state, some of the original beauty remains. If you'll listen with your heart and you'll look, every twinkling star is saying, *I love you*. Every wave is saying, *I love you*. Every flower, every tree, everything, every creature in creation is saying, *I love you*. *I made all of this for you. I made you and I made*

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this because I love you. I love you. That's why the wind blows. That's why I can take another breath. Listen to your heart. What is it saying? God is saying, *I love you.* He made us.

Reason number 3: We know that God loves us because of redemption.

“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.” (John 3:16)

Romans 5:8 says, “God commendeth,” or demonstrates, “His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

Ephesians 2:4-5 says, “But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ.”

Revelation 1:5 says, “Christ...the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood.”

The Bible also says, “Love covers the multitude of sins.” (1 Peter 4:8)

Through sin, man had sold out, lost his place with God, lost his authority, and lost his dominion in the Earth. But God couldn't have that because He loved us too much. He had to get us back. He had to fix it for us. He couldn't bear it. He couldn't have it that we were separated from Him, reduced, stripped, and brought down. He had to have it the way He intended it—that we are in His class, His whole family, ruling and reigning. So He had a plan, and He persevered with this love plan through the centuries, even though it looked impossible, and Satan was fighting against it. He had His prophets prophesy, and He had His angels work. He saw that it came to pass when it was supposed to, and that everything lined up toward the fruition of His plan.

In the fullness of time, Jesus was born of a woman, and God manifested perfection in the flesh. His birth said to the world, “I love you.” His every message was in love and kindness. At that time, the people were just used to hearing the Law. They sometimes just heard the legalistic interpretation of the judgment of God. It was talked about more than anything else. But here, the true and full nature of God is revealed when someone is caught in the act of adultery: “Whoever is without sin, you cast the first stone.” (John 8:7) They all walked away. Jesus looked at the woman and asked her, “No man has condemned you?” She said, “No.” He said, “Neither do I. Go and sin no more.” Hallelujah. Jesus didn't come into the world to condemn the world, but that we might be saved. Oh, sweet redemption! He bought us back with the most precious thing He had. We were not redeemed with silver and gold. We were redeemed with the precious blood of the Lamb—the Blood that has in it the life of God. The very life of God was spilled and poured out for us.

Then the devil comes and tries to tell us we're not worth much. You have to be pretty ignorant to believe that lie, right? If we're not worth very much, why would God pay so much for us? We're not talking about a million dollars, or a billion dollars, or a trillion dollars. All of the gold in the world can't buy one soul. There was nothing in the universe that could buy a soul except the precious Blood of the Lamb. And He paid it. He shed it and He paid it. Why? He loves you. He

wants you and was willing to pay anything to get you back. Did you read that? He was willing to pay *anything*.

Do you know what a horrible price was paid? Jesus is as strong as you will ever see and hear, but in the garden, He was sweating blood. He said, “If it’s possible, let this cup pass from Me.” (Matthew 26:39) But there was nothing else that could buy us. Nothing else could get us. So the Father said, *I want them. I have to have them. They are the apple of My eye. Do it.*

Jesus knew, *It’s going to cost us everything*, but the Father said, *Do it.*

Jesus knew it was a terrible price, but His Father said, *Pay it, because I want them.*

Say this out loud: **“He loves me. He loves me.”**

Did He pay a dear price for us? Romans 8:31-32 says, “What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”

Friend, if God was ever going to hold anything back from you, it would have been His Son. If God was ever going to say, *No, not that. I won’t give you that*, it would have been His Son—His only begotten Son. Verse 32 says, “If God spared not Him,” if He didn’t hold Him back, or if He didn’t say “no” about giving Him, “how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” If He gave you Jesus, He will give you a house. If He gave you Jesus, He will give you a car. If He gave you Jesus, He will heal your body. When He gave us Jesus, He gave us all of these things, in Him. That’s why He said, “All things are yours.”

Can you see how the devil has deceived and lied to the Church? Some people say, “I don’t want to bother the Lord with that... I don’t know if it’s the Lord’s will...” They just don’t have a fraction of an idea how much He loves us. He has already shown us how much He loves us: He gave us Jesus. That’s it. If He will give us Jesus, “...how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” Hallelujah! He gave us everything!

I’m touched by what took place in John 20:17, when Jesus was first raised from the dead, and the women were there and saw Him. They fell down at His feet to worship Him, and He said, “Touch Me not; for I am not yet ascended to My Father...” He tells them to “go to My brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto My Father, and your Father; and to My God, and your God.”

The price has been paid, and He has ascended on high, to be our Mediator. He offered up His own Blood in the Holy of Holies and obtained eternal redemption. He’s telling them, “Go tell them I’m going to My Father and your Father, My God and your God.” Because of what He has done, I can say that He is my Father just as much as He is the Lord Jesus’ Father, and He is my God, just as much as He is Jesus’ God—and He loves me just as much as He loves Jesus.

Some say, “I just don’t know if I can believe that. I just don’t see how that can be.” There are a lot of things you can’t see, but you can believe. Stop reasoning and trying to figure it out, and just believe it.

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You might ask, “How can I tell when I believe it?” Your heart will be affected. Your faith will begin to come up, and things that looked big won’t look so big. Things that you once questioned, you won’t question anymore. Why? Because if He gave you Jesus, He will give you any good thing.

Reason number 4: We know that Jesus loves us because He is still giving.

Even though He gave Himself and His last drop of blood, and He paid the full price when He was raised from the dead, that’s not the end. He is still giving.

Hebrews 7:25 says, “He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.”

Jesus, right before His final hours on Earth, was at the last Passover meal with His disciples. At one point in the supper, He got up, pulled off His coat, and wrapped a towel around Himself like a slave. He got a basin of water, and He went to His disciples.

Now don’t just hear this religiously. Jesus—the Master, the Son of God, the Head of the Church, the King of kings, the Lord of lords—put on a towel, knelt down in front of His disciples, took some water, and started washing their feet. He went to the next one, then the next. He got to Peter, and Peter said, “No! You are not washing my feet.” You can understand why Peter would feel that way. We’re talking about Jesus—kneeling in front of you and washing your feet. Jesus said, “You don’t know what I’m doing now, but you’ll know later on.” Peter said, “No. You’re not washing my feet.” Jesus said, “If I don’t, then you don’t have any part with Me.” This is one reason the Lord liked Peter—because he said, “Okay, wash me. Wash my feet. Give me a bath.” Peter was quick to repent.

Jesus said, “I didn’t come to be served. I came to serve.” (Mark 10:45) If that’s not love, friend, what is it? The King of kings is ever living to make intercession for you and me. Every day and every night, He’s at the right hand of the Father. He is our Advocate, our Attorney, and our Representative. He claims us. He stands up for us. He speaks on our behalf. He is the Apostle and High Priest of our confession. We confess something in faith, and He backs us and says, “Yes.” He is the Mediator concerning our faith and our confession. This is every day. He loves us, and He cares about us.

Reason number 5: We know He loves us because of the great gifts He has given us.

God is a gift-giver, the ultimate Giver. The greatest Gift I’ve already talked about is Jesus. He gave us Jesus, but that wasn’t the end. He also gave us the Holy Spirit. We’re not talking about a new car or a house. He gave us the Holy Spirit. Every time you speak in tongues, God is saying, *I love you. That’s why I gave you the Holy Spirit.* Every time you sense the anointing on you, He’s saying, *I love you.*

Jesus looked at His disciples before He left and said, *Fellas, you all need help. But I’m not going to leave you orphans. I’m not going to leave you helpless. I’m going to pray to the Father,*

because I love you, and He's going to give You another Comforter. He will abide with you forever. He's going to be in you and on you. He's going to teach you, lead you, and show you things to come. He's going to help you preach, pray, prophesy, and fix your hair in the morning. He's going to help you drive to work. Because He loves you, He is going to help you, with every beat of your heart and every breath you take. He's going to be inside of you. You will have twenty-four-hours-a-day help. Oh, He loves us. He gave us the Holy Spirit, but that is not all. With the Holy Spirit, you need to include all of the gifts and manifestations of the Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12) Why did He give us words of knowledge? He loves us. Why did He give us words of wisdom and discerning of spirits? Because He loves us. Why did He give us gifts of healing? He loves us. And there is more.

When Christ ascended on high, He gave gifts to men. Ephesians 4:11-12 says, "And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Why? Because He loves us. He gave us these gifts, and every time they get up and speak, you ought to see a big bow wrapped around them. We're not talking about a little box under the Christmas tree; we're talking about human beings, spiritual gifts, ministry gifts.

When Solomon began to reign in his father David's kingdom, he told Hiram—who always loved David—that he wanted cedar and some other things to build the house of God. Hiram sent back word and said, "Solomon, do you know why God made you king? It's because He loves those people." (2 Chronicles 2:11) God gave them a wise king.

He gave us apostles and prophets. They are gifts to the body of Christ, and God unfolds, unveils, and reveals Himself through these gifts. These are gifts to you.

People like Brother Kenneth Hagin were sent because God loves us. He said, *I love them so much, I'm going to give them a big gift. What can I give them? I'll give them some apostles—that's a big gift—and prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. I'm going to give them some real gifts.* God knows how to give a gift.

He gives us gifts to help us, teach us, guide us, lead us in prayer, prophesy to us, build us up, edify us, correct us, and instruct us. Why? He loves us. Every time we see someone get behind the pulpit, we ought to be hearing God say, *I love you. That's why I sent them here. That's why I gave them to you—because I love you.*

Say this out loud: **"He loves me. He loves me."**

Reason number 6: We know He loves us because of His continuous protection and provision.

Without His protection, do you know how many times you would have been killed by now? I mean, start when you were two years old. How many times did His angel steer you this way instead of that? You almost stepped off the edge, and He pulled you back. A lot of things happen when you're little, things you don't even remember. How many times has He protected you and spared you? There are so many things you don't even know about because they just didn't

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happen. You didn't know what you were spared from every day. The devil is out there trying to kill us, but if we'll walk with God, he can't touch us. The Lord helps us to overcome every plan and everything the devil works up. He protects us, pulls us up, guards us, and guides us.

And provision—has He met your needs? With every meal you eat, He's saying, *I love you*. With every piece of clothing you have, God is saying, *I love you*. Do you have a place to lie down and sleep? God is saying, *I love you. I'm taking care of you. I'm going to keep taking care of you*. God loves us.

Reason number 7: We know God loves us because of our associations—our family and our friends.

In Acts, it refers to “your own company.” (4:23) These are divine connections. You may think that people like you and hook up with you just because of your charm, or because you are so good-looking, but I'm going to have to burst your bubble. The Israelites were told one time, in Deuteronomy, “Don't think God chose you because of *you*. It wasn't because you were the mightiest; you were the fewest. It wasn't because you were so big; you were rebellious. It was because He made a promise to your fathers.” (7:7-8) He loves you and chose you. He chose us.

Do you have good folks and good family? You may feel like you have some of the other kind, too, but they can change. Do you have some people who love you and care whether you live or die? That's a gift from God.

Do you have any friends who are always there for you? You could call them at three in the morning, and they would come get you. They are friends who will always help you. That's a gift. It's not because you're so smooth and slick and great. It's because God loves you and wants you to have a friend—someone who will be with you so you won't be alone. There are some people God had to bring to you supernaturally. They wouldn't even look at you, and they thought, *I don't care much about them*, but then He moved on them, and all at once, for some reason they like you. They don't know why they like you, but they do. It's because God loves you that He gave you friends.

He gave you people who would actually pray for you. There are a lot of people in the world who need prayer, so when a person prays for you instead of himself or someone else, that's favor; that's a gift. He gives you friends who will take time with you, spend money on you, buy you a meal, or buy you some clothes. That's God. Human nature is selfish, and even most Christians are pretty carnal. But when God moves on people and they crowd up around you, hug you, and say, “Man, we love you. We're your friends,” God is loving you. He's moving for you, helping you, and encouraging you through them.

Have you ever had a time when you were not experiencing the best in the world, and someone showed up and said just the right thing, at the right time?

Ministers don't always get good letters. Sometimes there are bad letters. I've had people write and tell me that I should do the world a favor and get out of the ministry, that I'm hurting people. They've said that I'm damaging the people, and if I loved them, I would get out.

Sometimes the devil inspires people so that they know just what to say—the wrong thing at the wrong time. If you listen to them, you’ll begin to feel discouraged.

Oh, but God loves you so much that He will have four of your buddies show up at your door and say, “You’re the greatest. You’re the man. We love you. You’re anointed. You’re a man of God. You have the word for the moment.” He’ll prop you, pump you up, build you up, and help you. Why will He do all of this? Because He loves you.

Reason number 8: We know God loves us because of all of the prayers He has answered for us, and all of the times He has come through for us.

How could you ever doubt and question His love? All you have to do is just think a little bit. How many times have you prayed, sometimes half in unbelief, but it was the best you knew at the time? You rolled around, couldn’t put one scripture with another, and just acted pitiful. But you were doing the best you knew at the time, and so God said, *That’s pretty close. Come on, let’s go.* People get hung up on legalism. They are afraid that if they don’t confess it forty-three times before lunch, and if they don’t say it exactly like it says it in the King James Version, there’s going to be some legal loophole, and they’re going to miss it. No! God sees your heart. Faith is of the heart. That means you can pray it all wrong, mess it all up, and say it goofy, and God says, “I know what you mean.”

There have been times when I was believing for something, and I said the wrong thing and was kind of claiming the wrong thing. But then the right thing happened, and I realized, *Oh, yeah, God—that’s what I meant. You knew what I meant. You knew I said it wrong. I’m sorry.* And He said, *Yeah, I knew what you meant.* Glory! It’s because He loves me.

Just praise God and thank God because He loves you. We’re not talking about someone else: it’s you—He loves you.

He said, “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love. That’s why I have drawn you with loving-kindness.” (Jeremiah 31:3) It’s the goodness of God that leads us to repentance. (Romans 2:4) It’s the graciousness of God.

The devil attempts to work on us and get us to yield to selfishness, to be confused until we don’t think we have anything for which to be thankful. People can get to the point where they think, *God doesn’t really care about me.* This is one of the worst lies you could ever hear or believe. I don’t believe it. I refuse to entertain it for a moment. God has proven His love for me. Never should I question it or doubt it for one minute. To question His love is to doubt Him.

As His love grows stronger in you, it pushes out fear, and you realize you are going to make it.

Say this out loud:

**I’m not going to die; I’m going to live.
I’m not going to go under financially; I’m going to go over.**

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**My family is not going to be destroyed; we're going to make it.
My kids are going to make it. My marriage is going to make it.
My ministry is going to make it. My church is going to make it.**

**I am going to make it because God loves me.
He loves me, and I can count on it. Hallelujah!**

Pray this prayer:

Father, I thank You for Your goodness. Thank You for Your love. I pray that You would continue to unfold these things in my heart, bring them to my remembrance, and help me to see so clearly, so powerfully how much You really do care for me. Help me to see how much You've done for me and are doing for me, and all You plan to do for me. Help me to keep it ever before my eyes and walk in the light and increase. Lord, I thank You for loving me. I love You. Thank You for all that You've done for me. Thank You for loving me so. I love You.

GOD LOVES ME

God loves you. He really, really loves you—just like He loves Jesus. And when you know He loves you, it takes away a lot of your questions, frustrations, and wavering.

Your faith just comes up, and you know you're going to make it—not because you're extraordinary, but because He loves you!



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