



Perfect Love

There are many people who spend a lifetime searching for perfect love in every corner of the earth and in all the wrong places only to settle for something much less when they come to an unhopeful conclusion that it will never come to them because they don't deserve it.

Even the religious who claim to have found this love, a sense of unfulfillment is seen in their eyes as they effortfully meet the conditions to stay within the borders of their "perfect" love.

You see, the human longs for perfect love – a love that is expressed towards you in an unconditional and unrestrained manner, regardless of who you are and what you have done. I am here to tell you that perfect love does exist.

1 John 4:18

"Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love."

Jesus' hope is that you may know that Father God sent Him and that you may know that He loves you as He dearly loves His only begotten Son – Jesus – because God gave Him up for you. Remember, in the Bible "to know" is always experiential and not just "knowledge about something." In other words, when you experience perfect love, you will completely encounter your uttermost value as an individual. This is the reason why God sent His only begotten Son...for you.

However, as long as you feel God is going to hurt you, do something bad to you, or allow something bad to happen to you, you will not be able to experience perfect love because you will never be able to trust Him fully.

When God sent Jesus to the world for you, it was precisely to demonstrate to you what perfect love looks like and how perfectly He feels it towards you. Jesus went through the passion because you are the very passion in His heart.

1 Peter 2:23

"When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats..."

Jesus has been the only human being who came for the purpose of suffering. During His passion, He endured nothing but the worst hostility and brutality from human beings. The Bible compares this event to that of a sacrificial lamb on its way to be slaughtered. The religious bound Jesus and led Him away to be tortured by the hands of the non-religious. He took it all this punishment from man because He so loves you. Jesus went quietly into the night for you.

-How dare they do that to Jesus!

When we experience the passion of the Christ, there is always a sense inside us all that says, “How dare them!” We always tend to hold the Jews and the Romans responsible for this atrocity. But, allow me to show you an eye opener in the following verse.

Isaiah 53:3

“He is despised and rejected by men. A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid our faces from Him; He was despised and we did not esteem Him.

Notice that it says, “we all hid our faces from Him.” The Bible includes all of us as despising and rejecting Him. We have all hid our faces from Him in some point in our lives. We all have ignored Him, despised Him, and even hated Him. This puts man on the same horizontal line and levels the hypocrisy. On this line, it doesn’t matter whether you’ve been good or bad.

When we had done the most damage and exposed who we really are as human independent of God, He stares us right into our eyes and says...

Luke 23:34

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing...”

One of Jesus’ last prayers on the cross was about you. He forgave you and me. Can you see the heart of our God? He is NOT being watchful of all our mistakes by trying to put us to shame, but, rather, loving us perfectly right where we are and who we are. He is not out to punish us. He is not withholding mercy from the world but to perfectly love us being fully aware of those things in our life.

A great man of God says it like this:

“He loved us not because we are lovable, but because He is love.” – **C.S. Lewis**

This audacious, unconditional, and perfect love is your hope because for once someone can understand you and relate to you without pointing the finger or judging you. You see, Jesus was demonstrating to you that God is nothing like the human had imagined or religion had taught. That judgmental God people had been scared of for so long was not the portrait Jesus painted for us via the masterpiece of His passion.

Romans 5:8

“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

The greatest demonstration of perfect love is seen that while we were in our most undeserving state, in our debaucheries, and in our ungodliness, Christ died for us. Know that He who knows every detail of your life – the good, the bad, and the ugly – loves you perfectly in the midst of all your past messes, your current addictions and selfishness, and your future shameful acts. This is your God. Let Him embrace you today. Amen.

By Joyner Briceño