

Union by the Love of Jesus: He First Loved Us



Wherever there is union with Jesus there is love for God and people.

It is through His love that fallen and alienated from God are united with Him again.

And love among Christians can be strong and made eternal only by His love.

Through this union we receive moral and spiritual power. It is Christ's love that makes us loving.

And God delights His people to love each other and love Him as He loves them.

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Beholding His love on His cross

We recognize and understand with minds and hearts Christ's love for us by contemplating His death on the cross.

This is the fulfillment of His statement: *When I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all unto Me.* John 12:32.

And it is His death that makes His love effective for us.

We love Him, because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19.

The love of Jesus is stronger than death, for He died to win your love.

Moreover, to make you one with Him, united for eternity.

His sacrifice is the centre of our hope. Jesus has revealed to our world and Heaven, that though:

- We all are conceived in sin and born in iniquity and thus naturally alienated from the life of God and dead in trespasses and sins. Psalm 51:5; Ephesians 4:18; 2:1.
- God has provided the Way to [bring us back to Him out of His love](#) — For God so loved the world, you and me... John 3:16.

And we behold the love of God to humans in the Divine plan for our redemption. It is revealed in the gift of God's beloved Son to the world.

Thus Jesus — the member of the Godhead — gave undeniable evidence that God is love in carrying out human salvation.

Recognizing God in the unity of Divine and human

The nature of Jesus is unique. He is fully Divine and fully human. The Bible depicts Him as Emmanuel — God with us.

Moreover, while He took upon Himself humanity, it was a life taken into union with Deity.

He was the Son of God and the Son of man. Divinity and humanity were combined, and man and God became one.

Though with my human mind I can't fully understand it, the more I contemplate on it, the more amazing it appears.

Furthermore, the Bible — with its God-given truths expressed in people's language presents a union of Divine and human as it was of Christ:

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us. John 1:14.

It is in this union that we find the hope of our fallen condition.

Jesus hath an unchangeable priesthood.

Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them. Hebrews 7:24, 25.

We can do nothing to commend ourselves to Divine favor. But, we find rest in Christ's love when as erring and sinful people we come to Him.

Love stronger than death

For He died to win my love. Moreover, to have me lean upon Him fully, and to make me one with Him for eternity.

I know that I naturally hate others. *I am carnal, sold under sin.*

Moreover, that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing. Romans 7:14, 18.

But Jesus is love incarnate, love in life.

His love has won my heart, and as He dwells in me, His love is shed abroad.

I love because He first loved me. Sweet is the fellowship of His love.

Thus I am alive unto God, through a living union with Christ.

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; Ephesians 2:4, 5.

Thus we continue to fulfill that God is love; and one that dwells in love dwells in God, and God in them. 1 John 4:8.

Conclusion on union by love

We are made one with God in Jesus through His love.

Furthermore, unity with Him establishes a bond of unity with one another.

Christ's love shed abroad in my heart quickens my love to others. It is His love that makes me loving.

The beauty of holiness is revealed as Christians draw near together, blending in Christlike love.

References

1. ST, March 1888; ST, July 1896 — [The Ellen G. White Estate](#)
2. The Bible: King James Version

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